

Algiers talks near adjournment

AMMAN (J.T.) — A second round of reconciliation talks among Fatah, the mainstream Palestinian command group within the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), and four other factions was expected to end Saturday night without agreeing on a date to convene the Palestine National Council (PNC). Mr. Saleh Rafat, a member of the Political Bureau of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine (DFLP), told the Jordan Times in a phone interview that "the five factions have agreed on 80 per cent of the political issues, but a final comprehensive agreement will not be drawn until a third round of talks which is expected to take place after two weeks in Algiers." The four left-wing factions also include the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP), the Palestine Liberation Front (PLF) and the Palestinian Communist Party. L.A.

Jordan Times

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جوردان تايمز: صحيفة سياسية يومية عربية مستقلة المنشورة من قبل مؤسسة الصحافة الأردنية "الراي"

Ramadan office timings announced

AMMAN (J.T.) — Government offices will be open from 8:30 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. during the month of Ramadan which is due to begin around June 1, according to an announcement by Prime Minister Ahmad Obeidat Saturday. Normal office hours are from 8:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. The new arrangements do not include departments the nature of whose activities and duties require special arrangements. Last year office hours during Ramadan were from 9:00 a.m. until 1:30 p.m. — four and-a-half hours of work — whereas it would be six hours according to Saturday's announcement.

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Jordan jails two Israeli collaborators

AMMAN (Petra) — Two Jordanians have been found guilty of contacting and dealing with the Israeli enemy and have received prison sentences from the military court. Ramadan Abu Madrus and Samir Akrama were each sentenced to 15 years with hard labour.

Security Council agrees to debate Arab complaint

UNITED NATIONS (AP) — The U.N. Security Council agreed Friday to hear an Arab complaint of Israeli aggression against Palestinian refugees at a camp in southern Lebanon, but the main focus of council attention next week could be the Gulf crisis, U.N. officials said. Abdulla Bisbara, the Kuwaiti secretary-general of the six-member Gulf Co-operation Council, was expected here Monday and might bring a request from Arab Gulf states for an urgent Security Council meeting. They accuse Iran of attacking their oil tankers in the Gulf.

24 people killed in Indian riots

BOMBAY (AP) — Twenty people were burned alive Saturday when rioters set fire to huts outside Bhiwandi in the worst communal rioting in India in 14 years, the United Nations of India (UNI) reported. Fifteen people were rescued by police, UNI quoted a state official, as telling newsmen in Bombay. The death toll in three days of rioting was more than 50. Earlier, four people were killed Saturday in renewed clashes. More than 6,000 people were left homeless in two days of rioting and arson.

Kahane barred from Canada

OTTAWA (R) — The Canadian government announced Friday it had barred Rabbi Meir Kahane, founder of the Jewish Defence League, from entering the country to attend a conference next week. "I have personally examined the case of Rabbi Kahane and concluded that it would not be in the Canadian interests to authorize his admission," Immigration Minister John Roberts said in a statement. Rabbi Kahane, a U.S. citizen living in Israel, leads a group that has been linked to terrorist acts against Palestinians in the occupied territories.

Italy voices concern over Gulf war

ROME (R) — The Italian Foreign Ministry summoned the ambassadors of Iran and Iraq Saturday to express concern over recent attacks on ships in the Gulf, official ministry sources said. They said the ambassadors, Gholamali Heydari Khajepour of Iran and Taha Ahmad Al Dawood of Iraq, were told Italy feels both countries should end military action that threatens navigation in the Gulf. They said the ambassadors were told Italy is "increasingly worried" about recent developments in the Gulf and that attacks this week on oil tankers there had aggravated the crisis.

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Hussein: Syria is entitled to role in peace efforts

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Majesty King Hussein said in an interview published in Paris Saturday that Syria is entitled to participate in any peace process because parts of its territory is under Israeli occupation.

The King's statement came in an interview with the French magazine Le Nouvel Observateur in which he urged European countries to play a more important role in finding a peaceful settlement for the Middle East conflict.

King Hussein reiterated Jordan's demands for a total Israeli withdrawal from the occupied Arab territories in return for comprehensive peace and said that Jordan's position towards efforts made to establish peace in the area remains consistent.

'Settlements obstruct peace'

King Hussein said Jordan strongly believes that the Israeli settlements in the occupied Arab lands are illegal

and constitute an additional obstacle to peace.

The King asked how it would be possible to speak about peace negotiations in the Middle East while the Israeli Likud Party claims that the occupied territories are part of Israel?

Asked about the U.S. position towards Middle East peace efforts, the King said that his recent statements on this issue were not aimed against U.S. President Ronald Reagan of his administration

but against the influence of Israel and that of the American Zionist lobby on U.S. policy.

King Hussein expressed hope that the two superpowers, the U.S. and the Soviet Union as well as all parties concerned, will participate in the peace process.

The Soviet Union is linked with Syria by a strategic agreement and the U.S. has a strategic alliance with Israel and therefore both superpowers can influence the peace process in the region, King Hussein said.

Jordanian-Palestinian links

He said that the Palestinians and Jordanians belong to one family and face a joint destiny and shoulder one responsibility because they both face the same challenges and the same threats.

At present, he said, the Jordanians and the Palestinians are trying to reach a common formula to organise their future relations and Jordan will

not impose anything on the Palestinians but will help them fulfil their aspirations.

On the Iran-Iraq war, King Hussein said that Jordan will continue to support Iraq. He said that if the Iranian regime aims at causing dissensions among Sunnis and Shi'ite then the whole region will be faced with a disaster. It will be a catastrophe if an internal conflict flares up in Iraq, he said, as the region will then be facing a far worse tragedy than that of Lebanon.



Cargo vessel sinks near Kharg as Iraq says siege successful

BAHRAIN (Agencies) — A merchant ship was reported sunk in the Gulf Saturday after a missile attack south of Iran's main oil loading terminal of Kharg Island, and Iraq claimed major successes in its blockade of Iranian oil exports.

The sinking of the Panamanian-registered Fidelity brought the number of vessels hit by air strikes in the Gulf since Sunday to at least six, amid mounting international concern over the escalation of the 43 month old Iran-Iraq war.

Baghdad has said nothing so far about the latest sinking, reported by shipping sources, though it occurred in a zone where Iraq has previously made numerous attacks on merchant shipping.

But it announced that it has cut Iraq's oil exports by more than half through the siege of its enemy's oil terminals. It did not say over what period exports had dropped, but Iraq has been blocking Kharg for several months.

The latest series of Gulf attacks included strikes against two Kuwaiti tankers and a Saudi supertanker, in its own waters, which the Gulf countries have blamed on Iran. Saudi Defence Minister Prince Sultan bin Abdul Aziz said Saturday the attacks should not go unpunished.

Prince Sultan, speaking to rep-

orters after a graduation ceremony for Saudi air force pilots, said "total protection comes from Allah," but aggression should not go without punishment.

Prince Sultan said there were no plans for a meeting of the defence ministers of the six-nation Gulf Co-operation Council (GCC) which groups Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, the United Arab Emirates, Bahrain, Oman and Qatar to discuss the attacks.

"There is no need to panic," he said.

The council's foreign ministers held emergency talks in Riyadh this week and accused Iran of attacking the Arab-owned tankers.

The authoritative Cyprus-based Middle East Economy Survey (MEES) said Friday Saudi Arabia and Kuwait have taken steps to tighten their air defences, ready to respond to fresh attacks.

The weekly Newsletter said this would be done by repositioning Hawk anti-aircraft missiles and strengthening air force readiness to intercept hostile incursions.

MEES, known to have access to

highly placed sources in Saudi Arabia and Gulf states, said the defenses will be geared to provide adequate air cover against aerial attacks on shipping in Saudi and Kuwaiti offshore areas.

Iraq's deputy prime minister, Taha Yassin Ramadan, meanwhile said the next three months would witness "a development in the siege operation against Iran, in order to force its rulers to lean to the truth and accept peace."

He did not elaborate, but added the next six months promised "significant and effective results on the course of the war."

Iraq's decision to impose an economic blockade on Iran's oil ports and terminals in the Gulf was "a constant decision that will continue," the agency quoted him as saying.

"The results of the Iraqi siege on Iran have become clear now and have begun to show their effect... the amount of oil exported by Iran has decreased by 55 per cent as a result of the siege, the consequences of which were made clear by the fact that Iran then attacked Arab tankers," Mr. Ramadan said.

It was not immediately clear exactly when the attack on the 16,657-ton bulk carrier Fidelity took place, but Lloyd's shipping intelligence in London quoted the ship's managers in Vienna as saying it was hit Friday.

Iraq said Friday it had set two

ships ablaze in the Gulf, but there was no independent confirmation of this.

Shipping sources said the Fidelity sent out a distress signal picked up in Bahrain at around 01:40 GMT Saturday.

It was on its way to the Iranian port of Bandar Khomeini at the head of the Gulf with a cargo of steel from Spain, according to the captain of another vessel in the area.

Lloyd's said the vessel was owned by Fabelot Shipping S.A. of Panama. The spokesman said it was recently purchased and had previously been known as Jela Topic.

The Fidelity was attacked in the Iran-Iraq war zone but the Lloyd's spokesman said he had no information on the source of the missile which struck it.

The Associated Press quoted shipping sources as saying that more than 20 of the Fidelity's crew had been rescued by unidentified vessels, believed to be Iranian, while 12 other crewmen were waiting in lifeboats to be picked up.

The same sources added that no rugs have been sent from Bahrain to rescue the crew or monitor the fate of the Fidelity.

New Iranian tactics aimed at avoiding U.S. intervention in Gulf, Bush holds talks in Oman; Pakistani official arrives in Saudi Arabia; NATO commander expresses U.S. concern over Gulf, page 2



BENIN MINISTER ARRIVES: Foreign Minister of the People's Republic of Benin Tiamou Abijade (left) with Saudi Minister of Information Laila Sharaf, who is also the acting foreign minister, while an aide to Mr. Abijade looks on.

The Benin minister is expected to hold talks with Foreign Ministry, Ministry of Industry, Trade and Tourism and Health Ministry officials on ways to develop the African country's relations with Jordan (Petra photo)

Pan-Arab support for GCC figures high in Tunis meeting

TUNIS (R) — Arab Gulf states, concerned over prospects of being dragged into Iran-Iraq war, are seeking solidarity at an Arab foreign ministers meeting which opened here Saturday afternoon, diplomatic sources said.

The extraordinary Arab League session, officially called to draft an agenda and fix a date for an Arab summit which has been postponed several times because of differences, is expected to be dominated by continuing attacks on shipping in the Gulf, they said.

As foreign ministers started their meeting in a Tunis hotel, another cargo ship was sunk early Saturday off the Iranian coast, the sixth ship attacked in the Gulf in six days.

The Gulf Co-operation Council (GCC) comprising Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates, intends to seek a strong statement of support from the Arab League, sources close to the Kuwaiti delegation said.

It will invoke the Arab League's Joint Defence Agreement under which member states should come to the help of any member suffering from aggression.

This request from the Gulf sta-

tes is likely to divide the meeting. Sources close to the Libyan delegation said Libya was opposed to such a request. Syria, which supports Iran in its conflict against Iraq, is also expected to oppose the move.

The presence of an Israeli delegation at the congress of Moroccan Jewish communities in Rabat last Sunday and Monday is expected to be another divisive issue (Syrian, Kuwaiti media assail Morocco, page 2).

Conference sources said the general feeling was that the Moroccan initiative would be condemned but that other measures were unlikely.

The Arab League meeting is expected to provide an opportunity for Tunisia and Libya to defuse their recent border tension, conference sources said.

The Tunisian-Libyan crisis followed a gun battle in Tripoli on May 8. Libya accused Tunisia of having let armed infiltrators use its territory to enter Libya. Tunisia has denied this.

Tunisia recalled its ambassador to Tripoli and asked for the immediate release of three border guards kidnapped on Tunisian territory, setting this as a pre-

condition for any discussion. The Associated Press adds: The participants will hear reports from two special committees. One is on proposed amendments to the Arab League Charter. Diplomatic sources said the major amendment under discussion is one to make decisions of the league by majority vote and not require unanimity, which has been the case since the league was founded in Egypt in 1945.

The second report will be on the results of the "Committee of Seven," created in March 1984 at an earlier session of foreign ministers in Baghdad.

That committee has been visiting various Western capitals to inform Western leaders of the dangers of an escalation in the Iran-Iraq war, which started in September 1980.

The Arab League has 22 members, though Egypt's membership was suspended in April 1979 following the Egyptian-Israeli treaty. The stated purpose of the Organisation is to strengthen relations among member states and to mediate disputes between members, or between members and third parties.

'Israeli hands behind fire that destroyed Palestine exhibits at Birzeit University'

By Lamis K. Andoni
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The exiled president of Birzeit University, Dr. Hanna Nasir, Saturday refuted Israeli reports that a fight among students had caused a fire which destroyed an exhibition of Palestinian heritage Friday, and said that the fire was "not accidental."

The fire, which started at midday Friday, reportedly ripped through two exhibitions of Palestinian national products and handicrafts including some invaluable and irreplaceable examples of Palestinian handicrafts.

According to Dr. Nasir students and staff joined together in attempts to extinguish the blaze but to no avail. The fire department was called to the scene immediately but arrived too late to save the exhibits, he said.

The Palestinian Heritage Exhibition was part of a Palestine Heritage Week organised by Birzeit students. The Israeli occupation authorities said Friday the fire was caused as a result of a fight between supporters and opponents of Palestine Liberation Organisation

(PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat.

Dr. Nasir said that the Israeli reports were "groundless" and described them "as attempts to whitewash the continued Israeli harassment against the university and to lay the blame on internal students conflict."

"We strongly condemn any attempt to sabotage this important cultural activity and any attempt to undermine the moral of the students of the university," Dr. Nasir said.

Dr. Nasir, who is also a member of the PLO Executive Committee, said that the university had started an investigation to find out the cause of the fire. "Evidence points to the conclusion that the fire was not accidental, and investigators will continue in the next few days to collect evidence of the fire," he said.

Dr. Nasir said that although the contents of the exhibition were destroyed local merchants, factories and artists responded immediately to the students' appeal to replace the destroyed exhibits so as to keep the exhibition week open to visitors.

On their turn, the students worked through the night to re-open

the Palestine Heritage Week.

"The co-operation of all student groups to recreate the Palestinian exhibition shows clearly that rumours of student dispute are completely unfounded," Dr. Nasir said.

He added that the students sustained only minor injuries while trying to extinguish the fire.

PLO factions condemn Israelis

On another development, five PLO factions issued a statement Saturday accusing the Israeli authorities and Jewish settlers of causing the fire.

The statement issued Saturday by Fatah, the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP), the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine (DFLP), the Palestine Liberation Front (PLF) and the Palestinian Communist Party, said: "The incident was part of a plan to expunge the Palestinian heritage."

The five factions called on "the representatives of the Palestinian people in the Israeli-occupied Arab territories to form a unified stand to counter the new Zionist attack."

The statement issued Saturday by Fatah, the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP), the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine (DFLP), the Palestine Liberation Front (PLF) and the Palestinian Communist Party, said: "The incident was part of a plan to expunge the Palestinian heritage."

Washington prefers Gulf diplomacy to military action

WASHINGTON (R) — The U.S. administration says it is working vigorously with neutral Arab countries and its Western allies to defuse tensions in the Gulf through diplomatic contacts rather than military action.

State Department spokesman John Hughes expressed concern at attacks on shipping in the strategic waterway but rejected suggestions that a crisis might be imminent. "We are engaged in vigorous diplomatic activity. That clearly is the initial way to go," he said Friday.

President Reagan has repeatedly pledged that the United States would not allow the Gulf to be closed to shipping by the 43-month-old war between Iran and Iraq but has not said what action he was prepared to take.

"We are prepared to work with others, particularly the states of the region, in common efforts to contain the effects of this tragic war," Mr. Hughes said in a statement.

The United States was anxious to prevent arms and military equipment from any country reaching Iran which he said had been intransigent in efforts to negotiate a ceasefire with Iraq.

But Mr. Hughes reiterated that U.S. policy was also to stop the flow of weapons to Iraq.

Administration officials have declined to speculate on how U.S. military intervention would be triggered, and Mr. Hughes emphasized the diplomatic aspects of American involvement.

"Many other governments are of that view, and we are working with them to see what we can do to defuse the situation," he said.

U.S. officials were unable to assess the effects of Gulf traffic of this week's series of attacks on

shipping which, they said, had been mounted by both Iran and Iraq. But they added that so far as was known no ships or cargoes had been lost.

Energy officials said the United States had enough oil on hand to meet its needs but might run into problems if it had to supply oil to its Gulf-dependent allies.

NBC News reported Friday night that Saudi Arabia had decided to use its ultra-modern 172-plane air force to respond to any further attacks on its ships in the Gulf.

NBC said the Saudis had told the U.S. government of this decision.

A State Department spokesman refused comment on the television report.

Saudi Arabia has so far refrained from any military response against the attacks. But NBC said the Saudis had now decided to launch their U.S.-equipped air force without warning against any further attacks.

TASS criticises U.S.

The Soviet Union Friday accused the United States of trying to take advantage of the deterioration in the Gulf war and of using it as a pretext for armed interference in the region.

TASS News Agency said Washington stood to gain from a widening of the Iran-Iraq war and was "taking advantage of the deterioration of the situation" in the Gulf.

This was a pretext for direct armed interference, TASS said, adding that the United States was preparing "a fresh aggression" in the region. It did not elaborate.

The agency said Washington's claim that U.S. naval forces were in the region to ensure freedom of navigation was merely a cover for implementing its long-standing ambitions in the Gulf.

TASS last March accused the United States of dramatically escalating tension in the Gulf and violating international laws on sea and air navigation.

Obeidi leaves for Damascus

AMMAN (Petra) — Council of Arab Economic Unity's (CAEU) Secretary-General Mahdi Al Obeidi left for Damascus Saturday to attend meetings of a special Arab League committee entrusted with co-ordinating work among the league's various agencies and organisations.

Apert from attending the meetings, due to start on May 23rd, Mr. Obeidi will hold talks with Syrian officials on outstanding issues related to the implementation of earlier CAEU resolutions. Mr. Obeidi is accompanied by his assistant for economic affairs, Mohammad Al Sharif.

Bush holds talks in Oman

MUSCAT (R) — U.S. Vice-President George Bush was having meetings Saturday morning with Oman's Sultan Qaboos bin Said and the Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, Youssef Al Alawai, during which the Gulf crisis was expected to be a major topic.

Mr. Bush arrived in Oman from Pakistan Friday and toured Muscat Saturday before his meetings.

No statements have been made, but diplomatic observers expected the situation in the Gulf, where tension has been heightened by attacks on shipping as a part of the Iran-Iraq war, would be high on the agenda in the talks.

NATO chief voices U.S. concern over Gulf

ROME (AP) — European Supreme Allied Commander Bernard Rogers said Friday the United States was "very concerned" about attacks on oil tankers in the Gulf and would defend its allies in the area.

Gen. Rogers, replying to questions at an American Club luncheon, said the United States would defend allied countries in the Gulf "even though the United States depend less on the oil production than they do." Gen. Rogers did not elaborate about Arab allies he had in mind.

Pakistani aide arrives in Saudi Arabia

BAHRAIN (R) — Pakistani Defence Minister Ali Ahmad Talpur arrived in Saudi Arabia Friday at the start of a previously unannounced visit which the official Saudi Press Agency said would last for a few days.

It said Mr. Talpur, whose country has close military links with Saudi Arabia, will have talks with the Saudi Defence Minister.

Syrians, Iranians clash in Baalbek

BEIRUT, Lebanon (AP) — Syrian troops and Iranian Revolutionary Guards clashed with small arms in eastern Lebanon's ancient city of Baalbek and reports reaching here Saturday said one Syrian was killed and three Iranians were wounded.

The 20-minute shootout occurred at sundown Friday near the city's Khawam Hotel, the headquarters of Iranian Islamic Revolutionary Guards stationed in Lebanon's Syrian-controlled Bekaa Valley since the Israeli invasion of 1982, the reports said.

Dispatches arriving by car from Baalbek-based reporters Saturday said Syrian checkpoints on all roads to the city were stopping, disarming and arresting Iranian guerrillas in the area following the clash. But the dispatches said the number of arrests could not be determined.

The Syrians were seen exchanging fire with Iranian guards around an Iranian tent near the hotel and the Syrians eventually set the tent on fire, according to the dispatches.

The Iranian Revolutionary Guard is a paramilitary outfit set up by Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini following the 1979 Iranian revolution.

About 500 of them are estimated to be stationed in the Baalbek area. They support such Lebanese Shi'ite Muslim groups as Hezbollah, or party of God, and the Amal Islamic Movement, a radical splinter group that split from the dominant Shi'ite militia "Amal" headed by Nabih Berri.

The shootout erupted about half an hour after a boy scout parade organised by Hezbollah was staged in the streets of the city.

Several hundred marchers were boarding buses at Baalbek's main public square to return to their home villages when the shooting started. But none of them was hurt and they were later allowed to leave by the Syrians, the reports said.

Lebanon suspended relations with Iran last year because Khomeini's government refused to heed a Lebanese demand that the Islamic Revolutionary Guard unit be withdrawn from the Bekaa Valley.

But when Lebanese President Amin Gemayel turned to Syria this spring for help to try to end the Lebanese war, his government decided to seek a re-establishment of relations with Iran.

Syria and Libya are the only Arab countries supporting Iraq in the Gulf war.

Syrian, Kuwaiti media attack Morocco

DAMASCUS (R) — Syria's official press called on Arab states Saturday to boycott Morocco politically and economically to punish it for breaking Arab ranks and challenging the rules of the Arab-Israeli struggle.

Syria withdrew its ambassador from Rabat last weekend after eight Israeli members of parliament attended a Moroccan Jewish conference there and was officially received by the Moroccan government.

The Syrian government newspaper Tishrin said in its main editorial: "The first and most urgent step the Arab Nation must take against the Moroccan regime is to apply the same economic and political sanctions it imposed at Arab summits on (the late Egyptian President Anwar) Sadat and his regime."

The Baghdad Summit in 1979 banned all economic and political contacts with Egypt in protest at its U.S.-sponsored peace treaty with Israel.

Tishrin said the sanctions were needed because Morocco had "violated the will and consensus of the Arab nation and made bold with the most sacred laws of the Arab-Zionist conflict."

"To hesitate in dealing with such phenomena would encourage (Morocco) to continue and thus spread the repercussions," the newspaper added.

In Kuwait, the daily Al Qabas called for the dismissal of Morocco from the Arab League and said King Hassan should also be dismissed from the 15-nation Committee for the Rescue of Jerusalem which he chairs.

Al Qabas said King Hassan had lost the confidence of the Arabs and the Muslims. "His dismissal from the Arab League is an Arab demand and from the Committee for the Rescue of Jerusalem an Islamic demand," it said.

The newspaper also called on Arab foreign ministers meeting in Tunis Saturday to adopt a resolution recommending King Hassan's dismissal.

Former Iranian hostages petition court

WASHINGTON (R) — Thirteen former U.S. hostages in Iran Friday petitioned the supreme court to hear their case against Iran and the United States for restitution for 14 months in captivity.

The 13 are seeking \$65 million in damages for their 444-day ordeal in the U.S. embassy in Tehran, which ended when they were freed on Jan. 20, 1981.

They also want the court to decide whether an individual has a right to sue a foreign country for "state-sponsored terrorism."

Their case, which failed in the

U.S. district court in Los Angeles in October, 1981, and again before the U.S. district court of appeals last February, challenges a promise made to Iran by the U.S. administration.

In order to secure the release of all 52 hostages, President Jimmy Carter stipulated none of them would have the right to claim damages from Iran.

For this reason, Lawyer James Davis told a news conference Friday, the 13 were suing the United States as well as Iran.

"If the hostages can't seek red-

ress from Iran because of this agreement, the United States should provide appropriate compensation. Mr. Davis said.

He said none of the hostages had received any compensation despite a recommendation by a presidential commission in 1981 that each receive \$12.50 for every day of captivity. Davis said the latest figure he had heard suggested was \$10 a day, subject to taxation.

He added that if their case were recognised it would be a blow against international terrorism.

Numeiri orders destruction of liquor

KHARTOUM, Sudan (Agencies) — President Jaafar Numeiri on Friday ordered the destruction of liquor worth 14 million Sudanese pounds (\$11.2 million), which had been stored at Port Sudan on the Red Sea, the Sudan News Agency (SUNA) reported.

The liquor had arrived at the port after Mr. Numeiri's declaration of Islamic Law in Sudan in September, and belonged to foreign embassies, duty free shops, and some corporations and individuals, SUNA said.

The agency said the destruction was ordered following delays in the re-exportation of the beverages to their sources of origin, and the distribution of some quantities inside the country.

All liquor in the capital Kha-

rum was destroyed in September in a public ceremony on the banks of the River Nile attended by Mr. Numeiri then, bottles of spirits were emptied into the waters, and bulldozers crushed thousands of cans of beer.

The Muslim religion forbids Muslims from the manufacture, distribution or consumption of alcohol.

Egypt's Middle East News Agency, reporting on Numeiri's decision, said that the quantities to be destroyed include 169,677 cases of embassy liquor, 12,000 cartons of beer, and 17 containers of assorted drink.

On Friday a leading member of the banned Sudanese Communist Party faced trial on charges of "instigating hatred against the

government and disturbing public order."

The official Sudan News Agency said Fatima Ahmad Ibrahim, chairman of the Sudan Women's Federation, was brought before an emergency court "after she insulted authorities at Khartoum Airport who hatched her from flying to London."

Emergency courts were formed last month to try smugglers, hoarders and corrupt officials after President Jaafar Numeiri proclaimed a state of emergency in Sudan.

The agency said after a three-hour hearing the court gave the defendant three days to appeal to a higher court to decide whether she can be defended by a lawyer.

Mohieddin lauds NDP achievements

CAIRO (R) — Egyptian Prime Minister Fuad Mohieddin Saturday said his ruling National Democratic Party (NDP) will contest the May 27 general election to achieve democracy, economic progress and stability. Mr. Mohieddin, whose party is expected to win a sweeping majority in the new 448-seat parliament, said his government achieved democracy in the country, allowing opposition parties to operate and have their own newspapers. Mr. Mohieddin, also secretary-general of the NDP, said the existence of emergency laws, declared when the late President Anwar Sadat was assassinated on Oct. 6, 1981, were necessary "to fight terrorism in the country." "We have never used emergency laws except in liquidating the activities of some extremist organisations which threaten the peoples security and the country's stability," Mr. Mohieddin said in a television programme.

Rebels say 40 Iranian guards killed

PARIS (R) — The Iranian opposition People's Mujahadeen said Friday its forces had killed at least 40 Revolutionary Guards in fighting in northern Iran over the past two weeks.

The Paris-based group, quoting a communiqué from the military command of its rebel units in Iranian Kurdistan, said the guards died in six clashes between May 4 and 14.

It said four military vehicles had been destroyed in the fighting, which took place in the Baneh and Sarajshu regions close to the Iraqi border, near Mahabad.

New Iranian tactics aimed at avoiding U.S. intervention in Gulf

By Christopher Hanson
Reuter

LONDON — Iran is employing new Gulf war tactics aimed at deterring Iraqi attacks on its shipping while keeping the United States out of the conflict, Western diplomats said Friday.

But continued Iraqi attacks raised fears that the war would escalate further. Baghdad said its warplanes had hit two more ships in the Gulf, the main lifeline for Western oil supplies.

Until this week, only Iraq had attacked Gulf shipping, launching dozens of strikes against tankers trading with Iran.

But Tehran, which has vowed to retaliate against assaults on its own vessels, hinted it was responsible for some attacks this week. After three tankers, one Saudi and two Kuwaiti, were hit in air strikes, six Gulf Arab states accused Iran of "aggression" and said they would protest at the United Nations.

The attacks marked a major escalation of the war, which started in 1980.

But diplomats and private experts said Iran was not carrying out a long-standing threat to close the Gulf, which could spark U.S. intervention. Rather, it was seeking to put pressure on Iraq to stop its attacks by hitting tankers of Baghdad's Arab backers.

President Reagan has vowed to keep the Gulf open, and diplomats said he could do so with the U.S. naval forces in the area. U.S. officials ruled out military action unless Western allies take part and regional governments request it.

Iran has warned both superpowers to keep out of the area and a U.S. diplomat told Reuters

he seriously doubted Iran wanted to "take on" the United States in the Gulf.

Tehran's aim, diplomats said, was largely political — to use harassing air attacks as pressure against Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, and other Arab Gulf states which together have provided billions of dollars in aid to Baghdad.

"It's a tit-for-tat kind of thing," a U.S. diplomat said. "These new attacks are seen as an attempt to put pressure on Iraq's bankrollers to turn up pressure on Iraq to stop its attacks on tankers docking in Iran."

The attacks Iraq announced Friday showed it had not been deterred and raised the dangers of Iranian retaliation and an increasingly intense naval confrontation.

The U.S. diplomat said Iranian pilots had been hitting a higher percentage of their targets than the Iraqis, which might whet their appetites.

"I just hope they don't get greedy," he said.

Western analysts doubt that Iran's new tactic will change the stance of Arab Gulf states.

The United States has five ships in the Gulf and an aircraft carrier task force nearby in the Arabian Sea. The analysts said these would be more than a match for Iranian forces.

Iran's air force is desperately short of aircraft, having only about 70 mainly older-model F-5 warplanes, and is badly in need of spare parts, according to Robert Van Tol, a Middle East analyst for the Royal United Services Institute in London.

Iran must save most of its planes to defend its cities and support its troops if they manage to break

through Iraqi defences on the ground and war front near their border, he said.

Despite Iraqi attacks, Tehran has continued to export large quantities of oil, and has no economic incentive to close the Gulf, analysts said.

But diplomats do not rule out an Iranian attempt to close the Gulf as a desperation measure. They say the Strait of Hormuz at the mouth of the Gulf is too deep to block by the sinking of ships, but Iran could effectively mine the narrow waterway if it were unopposed.

Gulf Arab states' naval and air forces could readily stop Iran laying mines. Mr. Van Tol said. Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Oman, Bahrain, Qatar, and the United Arab Emirates have a total of about 300 jets, which could give an effective air screen for ships in much of the Gulf.

In addition to U.S. vessels, France has 15 ships nearby, including a frigate patrolling the mouth of the Gulf. Britain has two navy ships in the area to assist British shipping.

There has been detailed advance planning among the three Western allies for possible joint action, diplomats say.

If the strait were mined, British and French vessels probably would sweep the mines, perhaps with the assistance of U.S. helicopters, while the American carrier Kitty Hawk would provide air cover, according to Western analysts.

Kitty Hawk could probably dominate the air without venturing into the Gulf, simply by cruising at its mouth, they say. Other ships might provide protection to tanker convoys.

TV & RADIO

JORDAN TELEVISION

BBC WORLD SERVICE

639, 720, 1413 KHz

MAIN CHANNEL

16:30	..... Koran
16:40	..... Cartoons
17:15	..... Children Programmes
18:10	..... Teen Savers
19:20	..... Programme Review
19:30	..... Health and Life Programme
20:00	..... News in Arabic
20:15	..... Arabesque
21:30	..... Wrestling
22:25	..... Arabesque Series
23:00	..... News Summary
23:10	..... Series Continued

06:00 Newsweek 06:30 Football Highlights 06:45 Financial Review 06:55 Reflections 07:00 World News 07:05 British Press News 07:15 Letterbox 07:30 Music For A While 07:45 Letter from America 08:00 Newsweek 08:30 Jazz for the Asking 09:00 World News 09:05 News About Britain 09:15 From Our Own Correspondent 09:30 The Muddy and Pivotal Square of HMS Bounty 09:50 Recording of the Week 20:00 World News 20:05 Reflections 20:15 The Pleasure's Yours 21:00 World News 21:05 British Press News 21:15 Science in Action 21:45 Sports Review 22:15 Letter from America 22:30 Religious Service 13:00 World News 13:10 World Phone In: It's Your World 13:55 News About Britain 14:00 Play of the Week 15:00 World News 15:05 Commentaries 15:15 Good Books 15:30 Viletic 15:45 The Tony Nyatt Request Show 16:30 The Glyndebourne Style 17:00 Radio Newswest 17:15 Concert Hall 18:00 World News 18:05 Commentaries 18:15 From our own Correspondent 18:35 Financial Review 18:45 Letter from America 19:00 World News 19:05 Meridian 19:30 Sports Round-up 20:00 Newsweek 20:30 Brain of Britain 21:00 Music For A While 21:15 Don't Worry about Maude 22:00 World News 22:05 Commentary 22:15 Letterbox 23:30 Sunday Half-Hour 23:40 Letter from America 23:55 The Pleasure's Yours 24:00 World News 00:05 Science in Action 00:40 Reflections 00:45 Sports Round-up 01:00 World News 01:05 Commentary 01:15 Letter from America 01:30 Speak No Evil

FOREIGN CHANNEL

18:30	..... French Play
19:00	..... News in French
19:15	..... Le Theatre de Bouvary
19:30	..... News in Hebrew
20:00	..... News in Arabic
20:30	..... Tales of the Unexpected
21:10	..... Napoleon and Love
22:00	..... News in English
22:15	..... Best Seller — Chefs — eps. 2

RADIO JORDAN

355 KHz. A.M. 900 MHz. FM
A party on 9500 KHz. SW

07:00	..... Light Music
07:30	..... Newsweek
08:00	..... Morning Show
10:00	..... News Summary
10:05	..... Morning Show
11:00	..... Pop Session
12:00	..... News Summary
12:05	..... Pop Session
13:00	..... News Summary
14:00	..... News Bulletin
14:10	..... Instrumentals
14:30	..... Science Report
15:00	..... Concert Hour
16:00	..... News Summary
16:05	..... Instrumentals
16:30	..... Old Favourites
17:00	..... Listeners' Choice
18:00	..... News Summary
18:05	..... Jazz Hour
19:00	..... Newsweek
19:30	..... Date with a Star
20:00	..... Evening Show
21:00	..... News Summary
21:05	..... News Summary
22:00	..... Evening Show
23:00	..... News Summary
23:05	..... Evening Show
24:00	..... News Headlines

VOICE OF AMERICA

11W 1200 KHz. 7200, 9565, 11740,
11925 & 15150

0600-1900 AM Morning: News on the hour news summaries; daily business reports; science and medicine; sports reports; VOA editorial and world and U.S. opinion columns; documentary analysis; features 17:00 News 17:10 News Headlines and Newsletters 17:20 International English News and Features 18:00 News 18:10 International Viewpoints 18:30 Music U.S. Choice 19:30 Special English 19:40 U.S. Choice 19:50 Special English

WHAT'S GOING ON

TODAY'S EVENTS

EXHIBITIONS

- * Paintings by Ali Jabri at the British Council
- * A collection of paintings and other works of art by local and international artists on show at the Alla Art Gallery.

CULTURAL CENTRES

Royal Cultural Centre Tel. 661026/7
American Centre 44371
American Centre Library 41520
British Council 36147-8
French Cultural Centre 37009
Goethe Institute 41993
Soviet Cultural Centre 24023
Spanish Cultural Centre 24049
Turkish Cultural Centre 30777
Haya Arts Centre 665195
Husseini Youth City 667181
Y.W.C.A. 664251
Y.W.M.C.A. 36111
Amman Municipal Library 843555
University of Jordan Library 843555

MUSEUMS

Folklore Museum Jewellery and costumes over 100 years old. Also mosaics from Madaba and Jerash (4th to 18th centuries). The Roman Theatre, Amman. Opening hours: 9.00 a.m. - 5 p.m. Year-round. Tel. 51760.
Jordan Archaeological Museum Has an excellent collection of the antiquity of Jordan. Jabal Al Qal'a (Citadel Hill). Opening hours: 9.00 a.m. - 5.00 p.m. (Fridays and official holidays) 10.00 a.m. - 4.00 p.m. Closed Tuesdays.
Jordan National Gallery Contains a collection of paintings, ceramics, and sculpture by contemporary Islamic artists from most of the Muslim countries, as well as a collection of paintings by 19th Century orientalists artists. Montazah, Jabal Luwaba. Opening hours: 10.00 a.m. - 1.30 p.m. and 3.30 p.m. - 6.00 p.m. Closed Tuesdays. Tel. 30128.

Maryam's Memorial (Military Museum): Collection of military memorabilia dating from the Arab Revolt of 1916. Sports City, Amman. Opening hours 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Closed Saturdays. Tel. 664240.
Popular Life of Jordan Museum: 100 to 150 year old items such as costumes, weapons, musical instruments, etc. Opening hours: 9.00 a.m. - 5.00 p.m. Closed Tuesdays. Tel. 37169.

SERVICE CLUBS

Lions Amman Club. Meetings every first and third Wednesday at the Holiday Inn. 1.30 p.m.
Lions Philadelphia Club. Meetings every second and fourth Wednesday at the Ammon Hotel, 7.30 p.m.
Philadelphia Rotary Club. Meetings every Wednesday at the Holiday Inn. 12.00 p.m.
Rotary Club. Meetings every Tuesday at the Intercontinental Hotel. 2.00 p.m.
Royal Automobile Club, Jabal Amman. Eighth Circle. Tel. 815261.

CHURCHES

St. Joseph Church (Roman Catholic): Jabal Amman, tel. 24590.
Church of the Annunciation (Roman Catholic): Jabal Luwaba, 37440.
De la Salle Church (Roman Catholic): Jabal Hussein, 661757.
Church of the Ascension (Greek Orthodox): Abdali, 23541.
Anglican Church (Church of the Red-cornet): Jabal Amman, 41559.
Armenian Catholic Church Ashrafieh: 71331.
Armenian Orthodox Church Ashrafieh: 75251.
St. Ephraim Church (Syrian Orthodox): Ashrafieh, 71751.
Armenian International Church (Inter-denominational): Streets at Southern Baptist School in Shmeisil, 663249.

PRAYER TIMES

05:00 Fajr
 04:44 (Sunrise) Shuray
 11:30 Dhuhr
 15:13 'Asr
 18:31 Maghreb
 20:05 Isha

FOR THE TRAVELLER

AMMAN AIRPORT

20:45

Cairo (RJ)

21:05

Cairo (MS)

This information is supplied by Alia information department at the Queen Alia International Airport, tel. (088) 33520, 33570, 33082, 33171, where it should always be verified.

ARRIVALS

05	Cairo (MS)
15	Dubai, Abu Dhabi (RJ)
30	Agaba (RJ)
45	Cairo (RJ)
45	Jeddah (RJ)
45	Kuwait (RJ)
30	Berlin, Laraca (SV)
30	Dhahran, Riyadh (IF)
30	Tripoli, Laraca (ILN)
10	Kuwait (KU)
10	Jeddah (SV)
45	Laraca (RJ)
45	Jeddah (RJ)
50	Brussels, Frankfurt (RJ)
35	Los Angeles, Chicago, Vienna (RJ)
35	London, Paris (RJ)
40	Madrid, Geneva (RJ)
40	New York, Amsterdam (RJ)
00	Rome (RJ)
00	Cairo (RJ)
05	Cairo (MS)
05	Athens (OA)
05	Damascus (RJ)
45	Cairo (RJ)
45	Baghdad (RJ)
00	London (BA)

DEPARTURES

10	Damascus, Frankfurt (LH)
45	Cairo (RJ)
00	Agaba (RJ)
00	Damascus, Paris (AF)
05	Cairo (MS)
05	Damascus, Roma (AZ)
00	Vienna, New York (RJ)
05	Tasla, Comblanca (RJ)
05	Laraca, Berlin (IF)
05	Riyadh, Dhahran (SV)
00	Laraca (RJ)
00	Cairo (RJ)
00	Laraca, Tripoli (LN)
00	Kuwait (KU)
00	Jeddah (SV)
00	Baghdad (IA)
05	Damascus (RJ)
05	Kuwait (KU)
05	Dhahran (RJ)
05	Bahrain, Muscat (RJ)
05	Baghdad (RJ)

MARITIME TRAFFIC

Regular-line ships docking at Aqaba port:

- Marko Marolo
- Mercatario Arabin
- Badre
- Rostock
- Banglar Moni
- Aqda Mytic
- Vidua Adyia
- Laredo
- Al Khana

Amia Kawar and Soas Company. Tel: 23234 (six lines) at your service.

MONEY EXCHANGE

Local selling rates in Jls

Belgian franc	67.2/ 67.6
Dutch guilder	121.4/ 123.1
Egyptian pound	324.6/ 328.6
French franc	44.4/ 44.7
Israeli dinar	355.5/ 360.3
Italian lire (for 100)	22.1/ 22.3
Japanese yen (for 100)	162.3/ 163.3
Kuwaiti dinar	1281.5/ 1286.1
Lebanese lira	64.1/ 65.1
Omani rial	1091.6/ 1093.3
Qatari rial	105.5/ 104
Saudi rial	107.5/ 108
Swedish crown	46.3/ 47
Syrian franc	166.3/ 167.3
Syrian lira	51.6/ 52.2
UAE dirham	102.9/ 103.4
U.K. sterling pound	325.5/ 328.7
U.S. dollar	378.5/ 380.5
W. German mark	136.5/ 137.3

WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.

An increase in temperature is expected, with northerly moderate winds. In Aqaba, winds will be northerly moderate and seas calm.

Low/high temperature in deg. C

Azutan	13/29
Agaba	18/35
Deserts	11/30
Jordan Valley	16/33

Yesterday's high temperatures:
Amman 27, Agaba 32. Humidity readings: Amman 25 per cent, Agaba 20

Neurosurgery conference 'helps boost co-operation'

AMMAN (Petra) — A conference on "Neurosurgery in the Arab World" ended here Saturday at which participants decided to hold their next meeting in Algiers in 1986 to discuss neurosurgical diseases affecting children and others related to the offspring of inter-marriages.

This was announced here by Dr. Ashraf Al Kurdi, the conference chairman, at a press conference.

He said that the conference was a successful step aimed at bolstering contacts and co-operation among Jordanian and Arab surgeons and specialists.

The subjects discussed by the conference were very specialised and covered a large spectrum of issues in the neuro-sciences and neurosurgery, Dr. Kurdi said.

Madaba launches week long clean-up campaign

MADABA (Petra) — A comprehensive clean-up campaign, which is expected to last one week, started in the city of Madaba and its neighbouring villages Saturday.

At least 6,000 schoolchildren are taking part in the campaign along with officials in government departments, scouts, members of sports clubs, charitable societies and youth centres.

The campaign includes the cleaning of streets, public squares and the removing of rubbish from around archaeological sites, and distributing information pamphlets and flyposting to spread awareness among the public about

the importance of cleanliness and other related activities.

The campaign was launched upon the recommendation of the local public safety committee, according to the committee chairman Abdul Halim Al Awwad, who is also Madaba District governor.

The public safety committee has provided vehicles, bulldozers and other facilities to facilitate the campaign and has sent out teams to inspect stores, bakeries, restaurants, and food shops to make sure they abide by safety and sanitation regulations, Mr. Awwad said.



Army Chief of Staff Lieutenant-General Fathi Abu Taleb (second from right) attends a five-day seminar on the role of human resources in national defence which opened in Amman Saturday (Petra photo)

Abu Taleb emphasises role of human resources in development of military

AMMAN (Petra) — Army Chief of Staff Fathi Abu Taleb said here Saturday that human resources are fundamental elements in developing the armed forces and in increasing their combat capabilities.

LT-Gen. Abu Taleb was addressing the opening session of a

five-day seminar on the employment of human resources in national defence, held at the Royal Cultural Centre.

"Our Arab World possesses vast human resources which should be trained to provide security and to guarantee peace for the nation," LT-Gen. Abu Taleb said.

He added that the armed forces in Jordan welcome university graduates who wish to join up and offer them many opportunities for success and progress.

Most Arab states are represented at the seminar in addition to the Arab League which helped to organise it in Amman.

Desertification study team finishes fieldwork

AMMAN (Petra) — Meteorological Department Director-General, Ali Abanda returned home Saturday after taking part in the work of a team formed by the Arab Organisation for Agricultural Development (AOAD) to study desertification and ways to combat it in the Arab peninsula.

The team comprised experts from Jordan, Syria, Iraq, Egypt and Sudan and they spent more than a month studying the situation of the Arab peninsula and

in Sudan, Or. Abanda said.

He added that the team paid several field visits and acquainted itself with the areas by affected desertification and projects in Saudi Arabia, South Yemen and North Yemen to combat it.

The results and recommendations of the study will be submitted to the AOAD which will study them pending the adoption of joint or regional projects to combat desertification in the Arab peninsula, Or. Abanda added.

Refinery company to give 7.5 per cent dividend

AMMAN (Petra) — The Jordan Petroleum Refinery Company (JPRC) will this month distribute JD 2,583,954 in dividends to the company's shareholders and will put away JD 356,696 to the capital account, according to a decision taken by the company's general assembly at its meeting held here Saturday.

The meeting also heard a report from the board of directors on the

company's activities and the general budget, which amounted to JD 134,222,611.

The dividend amounts to 7.5 per cent of the nominal value of the shares, according to a company spokesman.

The company's annual report indicated that JPRC refined 2,583,954 tonnes of crude oil over the past year.

Railway carries 12,000 people

AMMAN (Petra) — A total of 12,000 passengers have been transported on the Jordan-Hijaz Railway since the railway administration introduced programme an internal tour which began at the end of last February.

The director-general of the railway, Mr. Faris Sarayreh, said that many schools in Amman have made arrangements with the rail-

way administration to organise school trips for their students.

The railway has also co-ordinated closely, he said, with hotels and tourist institutions to include trips to ancient sites that lie close to the railway line.

Mr. Sarayreh said that the railway hopes to increase the number of such trips during the summer season.

Health service talks convene

AMMAN (Petra) — A 12-day symposium on developing health services started here Saturday. The symposium is being organised by the Ministry of Health in co-operation with the World Health Organisation (WHO).

Addressing the opening session of the symposium, the ministry's

under-secretary, Or. Suleiman Al Subeih, stressed the role the administration can play in fostering co-operation in the sector.

Participants will also be trained in the use and dissemination of information in the health service and on developing a national plan to achieve the goal of "Health for All by the Year 2000".

The participants will also be taught how to organise training courses for new administrative staff members.

Industrial exhibition opens at training centre

AMMAN (Petra) — Director-General of the Education Department of the Amman Governorate Farouq Badran, Saturday inaugurated the first industrial exhibition at the Ashrafiah Vocational Training Centre for men.

The exhibition includes central heating and sanitary equipment, an air conditioner made by the students, a cooler system, a water fountain, a solar heater and a gas operated ice melting plate.

The exhibition also includes different sorts of pumps made by the students, two models of electric car and fuel systems.

The inauguration ceremony was attended by both the directors of the education department office in Ashrafiah and Jabal Amman, the director of educational services and the director of the educational affairs of the department.

Workshop studies impact of agricultural modernisation

By Anne Counsell
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — A three-day seminar and workshop entitled "Some Aspects of Agricultural Modernisation and their Economic and Social Impacts", opened Saturday at the University of Jordan Faculty of Agriculture.

Organised by the Mediterranean Research Co-operation Project (MERCOOP) in conjunction with the faculty, the discussions are focusing on the technical and political aspects of agricultural modernisation affecting Mediterranean and Arab countries in the region.

Case studies of individual countries as well as general trends and developments in agriculture are being discussed by representatives and experts from research institutes and universities in Morocco, Tunisia, Algeria, Egypt, Turkey, Cyprus, Italy, West Germany, the West Bank and Jordan.

Addressing the participants, Professor Marwan Kamal, dean of the Faculty of Agriculture, said that agriculture plays a very important role in the development of all Third World economies.

Changes in environment

He said that agricultural modernisation brings many changes to the environment and society and that he hoped the workshop would forward the positive and negative aspects of such modernisation to the policy makers, because one of the most important constituents of the development process is agricultural policy.

Mr. Gerhart Scholl, director of MERCOOP, also welcomed participants and outlined the activities of MERCOOP.

Mr. Scholl said that MER-

COOP, which started its work in 1983, aims to contribute to a better exchange of applied social and economic research in the Mediterranean region.

Sponsored by the Friedrich Ebert Foundation in the Federal Republic of Germany, MERCOOP has its headquarters in Cairo and in the short time it has been in existence, it has organised two seminars dealing with the re-integration of migrant workers and the effect of the European Community on agricultural production in non-member Mediterranean countries.

Two papers on agricultural modernisation in Jordan were presented during the first day of the seminar. Dr. Ahmad Katanani from the University of Jordan outlined the transition from traditional to commercial farming practices that has taken place in the country and in developing countries in general.

Developments that improve land and water resources as well as education and training programmes to boost human resources were described as well as the roles played by credit institutions, technology, marketing, the public sector and international agencies.

He said that all these developments have led to an increasing trend towards commercial agriculture run as a business rather than the traditional sub-

sistence farming.

Food security

Or. Suleiman Arabiat, also from the University of Jordan, discussed food security as an aim of agricultural modernisation with reference to Jordan.

Or. Arabiat said that the need for food security has been accentuated in Jordan due to the rapid growth in population, and the low growth rate in agricultural production.

The current methods of improving production through farm machinery, fertilisers, seeds, and chemical spraying were outlined.

Dr. Arabiat went on to discuss the current food situation in Jordan relating to self-sufficiency ratios for various crops over the past 10 years and the consumption pattern of commodities according to food balance sheets prepared by the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) and the Ministry of Supply.

Dr. Arabiat said that Jordan suffers from a chronic shortage in the main food supplies such as wheat, cereals, red meat and milk and that the supply of these essential commodities places a great burden on the balance of payment.

Proposals for improving the situation included an emphasis on agriculture in the rainfed areas, continued co-operation with international agencies to establish a food stock through food aid and development projects, definition of suitable cropping patterns, increasing the efficiency of the private sector in promoting food security through modernisation and co-ordination between the concerned institutions.

Case studies of agriculture in Morocco and Turkey were also presented during the seminar Saturday.



Public Security Director-General Lieutenant-General Muhammad Idris (centre) Saturday attends the graduation ceremony of a new batch of women police officers (Petra photo)

Idris graduates women police officers

AMMAN (Petra) — A new batch of women police officers graduated here Saturday after completing a four-month training course.

The graduation ceremony was held under the patronage of Public Security Director Muhammad Idris who watched the graduates parading before the audience gathered at the Princess Basma

Women's Police Institute. The institute's director made a speech at the outset of the ceremony outlining the development of the training programmes at the institute and the duties which police women are entrusted with.

LT-Gen. Idris presented diplomas to the graduates and awards to those excelling in their courses. The graduates afterwards put on judo, karate and martial art

performances before the audience.

The graduates, received during their time at the institute, lectures on police work, legal and administrative instruction and different military training.

The ceremony was attended by senior public security department officers and relatives of the graduates.

Nabulsi offers councils finance, advice to help improve public services

IRBIO (Petra) — Minister of Municipal and Rural Affairs and the Environment Hamdallah Nabulsi opened a four-day seminar here Saturday on the work and activities of the municipal and village councils in Jordan.

He said in a speech to the participants that his ministry is keen to raise the efficiency of public services in all the regions of the kingdom and therefore will offer all councils financial and technical

help to enable them to carry out their duty to the best extent possible.

A conserved plan has been worked out designed to help co-ordinate the work of joint councils, the minister said.

This year the Ministry of Municipal and Rural Affairs and the Environment will hold 20 seminars to orientate the council heads on the most up to date developments in the running of the

affairs of their communities, the minister added.

A total of 48 council heads from the districts of Irbid and Ramtha, the northern Jordan Valley regions are taking part in the seminar during which they will familiarise themselves on the general duties of municipal and village councils, the latest legislation as it pertains to their councils, the preparation of budgets, tenders and other related topics.

Glass production in Ma'an will help stimulate economic activity in south

AMMAN (J.T.) — A JO 11 million glass factory near Ma'an is nearing completion, and is expected to be inaugurated in the coming few weeks.

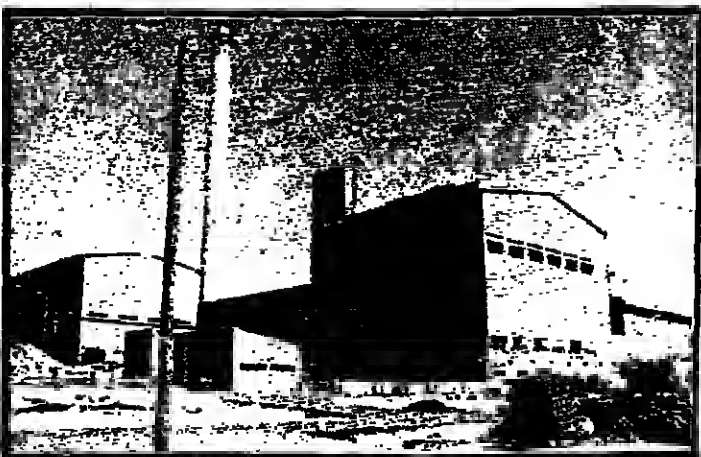
The factory will produce panes of glass of specifications that should satisfy the local market, according to Dr. Hashem Al Dabbas, chairman of the enterprise's board of directors.

He said that the factory will also manufacture glass for export.

The factory, he said, will use local raw materials, like sand and dolomite, which are essential to the glass industry. These materials are found in Jordan in abundance, Dr. Dabbas pointed out.

He said: "The factory has been established on a 60 dunum piece of land, nearly five kilometres away from the southern town of Ma'an".

The complex includes, apart from the factory itself, administrative offices, a laboratory, a restaurant and a health centre.



The JO 11 million glass factory near Ma'an which is expected to begin trial production next month (J.T. file photo)

"The factory site was chosen because of its proximity to the sand quarry in the Naqab region and Aqaba where the end-product can be exported. It is also close to the land route to the kingdom's neighbouring states," he con-

cluded.

Also the site was specifically selected to help develop the southern regions of Jordan both economically and socially, and will create good job opportunities for people in the south which will in

turn remove the necessity of their having to move to the north in order to seek jobs in the cities, he explained.

The government for its part has offered a JD 3 million loan to help finance the factory and has bought shares in the factory's capital.

When completed the factory should be able to manufacture nearly 27,000 tonnes of plain and coloured glass annually.

The local market in Jordan will consume 11,000 tonnes of glass per annum and the rest of the production will be exported to neighbouring Arab states, in accordance with previously concluded contracts.

The glass factory, experimental production at which is scheduled to start in the coming month, is expected to create jobs for 200 people, a number of whom have already been sent abroad to acquire the necessary training and expertise to enable them to handle all the production procedures.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Labour affairs discussed with Soviets

AMMAN (J.T.) — Minister of Labour Tayseer Abdul Jabbar discussed with Soviet ambassador in Amman Rafik Nishanov Saturday bilateral relations in the field of labour relations and vocational training. Also discussed were a number of issues related to the forthcoming international labour conference scheduled to be held in Geneva in June.

Memo issued on travelling delegations

AMMAN (Petra) — Prime Minister Ahmad 'Obeidat Saturday issued a circular to all government departments on arrangements dealing with official delegations travelling abroad to attend formal meetings and conferences. All departments should inform the Foreign Ministry in advance about the travel of such delegations so that Jordanian embassies abroad can make arrangements to facilitate these missions, the circular said.

Port statistics announced for January

AMMAN (Petra) — The number of ships which docked at the port of Aqaba during last January reached 186, the quantities of imported goods totalled 481,217 tonnes while the quantities of exported goods reached 440,261 tonnes during this period, according to the statistical report issued by the Ports Corporation. The report added that 266,800 tonnes of phosphate were exported via Aqaba in January.

Fayez meets Brazilian ambassador

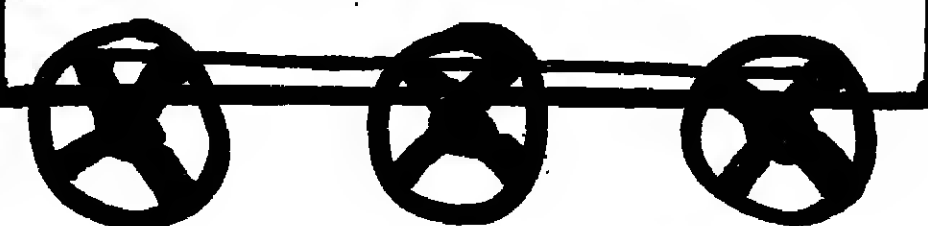
AMMAN (Petra) — The speaker of the Lower House of Parliament, Mr. Akef Fayez, Saturday morning received at his office the ambassador of Brazil to the Royal Hashemite Court, Mr. Felis Varia. During the meeting there was a review of bilateral relations between the two countries in the field of parliamentary affairs.

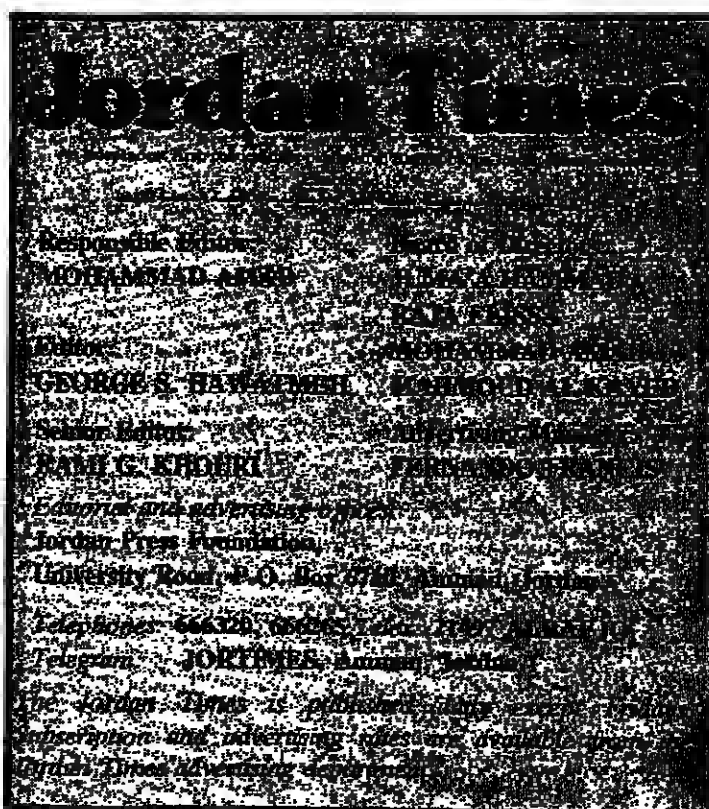
Team leaves to study Swedish roads

AMMAN (Petra) — A Jordanian delegation left for Sweden Saturday on an official invitation to study road building repairs and maintenance there. The delegation, led by Under-Secretary of the Ministry of Public Works M. Taz Al Bilbesi, includes senior engineers and officials from the ministry and the Amman Municipality.

THE AL-HUSSEIN SOCIETY FOR THE PHYSICALLY HANDICAPPED

Say an enormous thank you to the MARRIOTT HOTEL staff for their superb organisation of Friday May 18th fun train-ride fund raising day. It is impossible to describe in a few words the stupendous effort and energy that went into the making of a truly memorable journey. There was a spirit and happiness that flowed throughout the day. Special thanks also goes to all those who participated and made the day a success.





Decision long overdue

THE hazards of smoking notwithstanding, we welcome the government's decision taken last week to allow the import of foreign-made cigarettes into Jordan. This is a step that is worthy of praise for obvious and perhaps less noticeable reasons:

First, the decision on whether foreign cigarettes should be imported and sold to Jordanians had long been overdue. The previous government of Mr. Mudar Badran, himself a smoker of foreign brands, brooded over the issue indefinitely. It could not reach a decision one way or the other although Mr. Badran was in favour of the move to allow foreign cigarettes in the country. The cabinet of Mr. Ahmad 'Ubeidat, a non-smoker, quickly voted for the move, decided to entrust the task of importing these cigarettes to the Supply Ministry and established a fund through which the new revenue would go to supporting agricultural products. The decisiveness in taking the decision, if nothing else, is in itself therefore a commendable step that should always mark the work of our governments.

Second, smuggling of the hitherto illegal cigarettes had reached such proportions that the smugglers literally stripped the treasury of a much needed income to support other Jordan's tobacco growers or other useful projects, and it also prompted the citizen who smoked the foreign brands to become part of the smuggling cycle, with all the inherent dangers of this process being allowed to crawl over the society as a whole. By legalising the sale of foreign cigarettes in the country, this smuggling ring will be broken, and all citizens should share in reaping the benefits of a truly wise decision.

Third, the monopoly of the only tobacco company operating in Jordan will not be there anymore. And the Jordanian industry will be made to improve its products, in view of the likely competition from the outside. Such development cannot but be healthy for a system that boasts the free enterprise system and which craves much for quality, and improving its way of life.

Fourth, Jordan now will be in a position to offer for its visitors and citizens alike more of what they might want or require. This step, small as it may be, means a lot to the image of a country either as an attractive country for the tourist or as an open society for everybody.

Perhaps there will be drawbacks in the decision to allow the import of foreign-made cigarettes. But if there is any, the other side, or those opposing the move, certainly have not shown us their case well. However, it should not be too late for anybody to contest the action. Jordanians can take their government to court whenever they deem it necessary. They can do it in this case, provided of course they are not on the side of the smugglers.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: Typically American

AS USUAL, the American reaction to the recent Israeli crimes in the Ein Al Hilwe camp was limited to expressing great worry and stating that Israel's destruction of possessions is in violation of the Geneva convention. This reaction did not go beyond calling up "all parties" not to commit any actions that may increase the complexity of the situation.

This reaction, which expresses no real concern, avoided simply condemning or denouncing the Israeli crimes in the camp and indicates that certain interference has caused the postponement of the Security Council session scheduled to be held Friday until next Monday. This was aimed at avoiding discussing the incident while it is "hot", so that it will be discussed as a passing incident later on and so that Israel would have the opportunity to get away with its crimes unpunished.

Naturally, the call for holding a Security Council meeting displeased American policy-makers, not because it is an embarrassment for America to offer public support to Israeli aggressors through a traditional veto and all sorts of diplomatic, political, economic and military aid, but because America views this call as a way of rallying the international community against Israel's aggressive practices, a matter unacceptable by American standards and which it avoids by all possible means.

The time has come for this biased intransigent policy to call back a strong Arab response.

Al Dustour: Jerusalem needs action

THE ISLAMIC World celebrated on Saturday the "Jerusalem Day", which is an occasion that reminds Arabs and Muslims of their Holy City and the plots of Judaisation, arson and explosions against it by the Zionist occupation forces and their lackies.

The future of Jerusalem, which embodies the core of the struggle in the region, is a matter that cannot be decided by the balances of present day power nor by Arab and Islamic situations that are odd and unnatural at present.

Perhaps such a great importance given by Arabs and Muslims to the fate and future of Jerusalem is the natural prologue to a real awakening that can erase from the history of the city, the state of humiliability and degradation brought about by the Zionist invaders.

While looking to the future of Arab-Muslim Jerusalem with confidence that cannot be shaken, we realise that the way to regain Jerusalem is a long one that requires much sacrifice and preparation, which is exactly what Jerusalem is actually calling for and what it deserves from Arabs and Muslims.

Sawt Al Shaab: Escalating the war

TODAY STARTS the conference of Arab foreign ministers in Tunis. It is hard to tell whether one should expect a call for a long-awaited Arab summit and for which circumstances urgently call.

The main subject imposing itself on the Arab foreign ministers' conference is increase in the scope of Iranian aggression and bombardment of Arab oil tankers sailing from and to the Gulf.

During all these provocations, Iraq continued alone to face Iranian hysteria as extremism, and the rest of the Arabs continued to wait for something miraculous to happen without making the least attempt at persuading Iran to stop the war and to prevent any further complications in the region.

Iran insists on challenging any result even if the situation reached the threat of a new world war. So, what is going to be decided by the Arab ministers, knowing that the joint Arab defence agreement rules that aggression on any Arab country is an aggression on all Arab countries.

Jordan benefits from airline services

By Fahed Fanek

THE AIRLINE industry has become one of the giants of business, industry, and communication in the daily economic life of Jordan. Without airlines, Amman could not function as the important centre of trade, tourism and transport in the Middle East it has become.

The airlines contribute, directly and indirectly, nearly JD 65 million annually to the country's economy, with over 25 air carriers led by Alia, the Royal Jordanian Airline providing a substantial monthly payroll.

More than 1.7 million passengers and 40 thousand ton-

nes of freight and mail are carried every year by airlines operating in and out of Amman and Aqaba airports.

The positive effects of the airline industry in Jordan are so far-reaching that virtually all of Jordan's commercial and industrial activity benefits from airline services. With such a critical impact on the country's economy and its citizens, a healthy airline industry is essential to the continuing growth of Amman and Aqaba in particular and Jordan in general.

Some of the airline economic benefits to Jordan are:

— Employment for thousands of people.

— Income for businesses that provide goods and services in support of airline passenger and cargo operations.

— Millions of dollars spent by air travellers visiting the country.

— Vital business, social and recreational links to and from other regions in the world.

— Direct and indirect tax payments.

— Millions of dinars to support Queen Alia International Airport in the form of landing, mooring and over flying fees and departure tax.

Airlines employ around 6,000 men and women in Jordan, with a total payroll amounting to more than JD 20 million per year. In addition, an equivalent amount is generated by these employees and their families through their expenditures for food, housing, clothing, and other goods and services purchased within the country.

Thus, the annual economic impact of airline employees and their families amounts to more than JD 40 million or 2.5 per cent of the gross domestic product.

In addition to airline employment, there are some 151 travel agencies with an output of JD 40 million in air travel sales, employing approximately 900 persons in various cities and towns all over the country. Civil Aviation Authority and airports of Amman and Aqaba also provide some 850 additional jobs throughout the country.

Airlines buy a wide variety of supplies and services in the country, providing revenues to local business which in 1983 exceeded JD 25 million.

Approximately 600,000 visitors come to Amman each year by air for business and vacations, to visit friends and relatives, or in transit to the Holy-land or other Arab countries.

The above methodology of accounting for the economic impact of airlines on Jordan is based on a similar study on New York State, prepared by the Air Transport Association (ATA) on February 1984. All that I have done is replacing New York facts and figures by Jordanian corresponding facts and figures.

I want to warn users of this article that the figures used are not based on research or empirical studies. At best, they represent an educated guess that needs lots of perfection before being quoted for scientific purposes.

While Reagan roars over 'international, state' terrorism

Claudia Wright

THE latest move by the Reagan administration in the campaign against what it calls international terrorism and state terrorism may be a case of rhetorical enthusiasm getting the better of political judgement. If it represents the *envoy* of Lawrence Eagleburger, the most anti-Arab official ever to occupy the under-secretaryship of the State Department, the implementation may be less damaging than the intention; Mr. Eagleburger retired on April 30 and will be replaced by Michael Armacost, a Foreign Service specialist on Japan and the Pacific. Nonetheless, the newly proposed anti-terrorism legislation, drafted by the State Department and sent to Congress on April 26, potentially represents one of the most anti-Arab initiatives the Israel faction at State has recently devised.

Following the Oct. 23, 1983 attack on the U.S. Marine barracks in Beirut, the administration tried to divert public unhappiness with administration policy in Lebanon to condemnation of international terrorists in general, and to Libya, Syria and Iran in particular as states sponsoring terrorist attacks. The Defence Department's commission of inquiry into the Beirut attack concluded in

December that "international terrorist acts endemic to the Middle East are indicative of an alarming world-wide phenomenon that poses an increasing threat to U.S. personnel and facilities", and recommended an "active national policy which seeks to deter attack or reduce its effectiveness."

In the weeks that followed, a variety of policy options have been debated and approved by the president. On April 3, he signed National Security Decision Directive No. 138, which provides broad authorization for a policy of counter-intelligence and pre-emptive military operations planning which the defence department commission has called for. The State Department's April 26 legislative package was drafted as part of this effort.

Three of the four bills are padding. They deal with hostage-taking and aircraft sabotage and implement international conventions the U.S. agreed to several years ago. Until now neither the administration nor the Congress considered them urgent enough to put into U.S. law. A third bill would increase the cash rewards and promises of immigration visas in the hope of attracting intelligence in conspiracies to attack U.S. citizens and facilities at home and abroad.

Reagan invited violence

No-one can dispute the fact that the Reagan administration has attracted a degree of hostility and violence that is unprecedented in the Middle East; in Mr. Reagan's three years more Americans have been killed in international conflict than since the end of the Vietnam war. Administration officials want to believe they are dealing with a new type of violence they call international terrorism. What they call terrorism, however, others call civil warfare, national liberation, or resistance to military intervention or invasion. The label of "state terrorism" applied by the administration to acts by Arabs in Lebanon is used by others for U.S. government policy in central America. Controversies like these have made it impossible in the past for the U.S. government to legislate a definition of international terrorism for purposes of criminal prosecution and extradition.

Unrestricted policing

This is what makes the new legislation the State Department has drafted so significant. For the first time the U.S. is planning to adopt a definition of terrorism and of unlawful assistance to terrorism that covers a wide range of political, economic and military acts, whether carried out in a state of war or not. If enacted, the effect would be to ignore the political and military context in which U.S. forces have intervened, in order to target only those groups, political parties and states which are opposed to the intervention. It grants the State Department discretion, unchecked by Congress, to brand some activities as terrorist, while supporting others of the same kind. In the president's message to Congress, Mr. Reagan made clear how one-sided his view of terrorism is. Referring to the reason for the new legislation, he spoke of "the tragic deaths of our diplomats and Marines, as well as French and Israeli soldiers in Lebanon" — the legality of the Israeli presence in Lebanon was assumed; the deaths of many hundreds of Arabs as a result of the Israeli invasion totally ignored.

In the bill, the administration proposes to empower the secretary of state to designate states, "factions" (a term defined to include political parties) and groups as supporting international terrorism. No appeal or challenge to the factual basis of a designation is permitted. Once made, it would be unlawful for American citizens, companies or residents to "serve or act in concert with" such states or groups, provide "training", "logical, mechanical, maintenance or similar support services", or "recruit or solicit" others to do these things. The legislation makes these activities criminal, and subject to fines and imprisonment, wherever in the world they are committed. In addition, non-U.S. nationals would be subject to criminal prosecution if they provided such services to designated states or groups in the U.S.

There are several new elements in the legislation. Previous attempts to define international terrorism in senate bills of 1979 and 1981 carefully distinguished terrorist violence from acts committed in the context of a civil war or insurgency, and from acts "committed in the course of military or paramilitary operations directed essentially against military forces or military targets of a state or an organized group". Under the 1979 and 1981 legislation, the attack on U.S. Marines in Lebanon would not legally be a case of international terrorism. Under the new proposal, the secretary of state can ignore the political context and the legality of the American military presence in a foreign state in which violence occurs.

Violating other's sovereignty

Extra-territoriality is another new element in the legislation. As the administration has attempted to do in its export and trade embargo proposals, the legislation aims to sanction acts even if they occur under the jurisdiction of foreign states. For U.S. companies, this means that the provision, say, of telephone or telex services to an organisation like the PLO, which may be designated a terrorist group, could be subject to criminal prosecution, whether the service is provided in Washington, at the United Nations in New York, or anywhere outside the U.S. If Libya, Syria and Iran are designated as states supporting

terrorism the language of the bill is so broad that their nationals could be subject to prosecution if they visit the U.S. Palestinians belonging to any of the constituent units of the PLO or the Palestine National Council would be equally at risk. So too members of Polisario, Swapo, the African National Council, the Irish Republican Army or Armenian organisations.

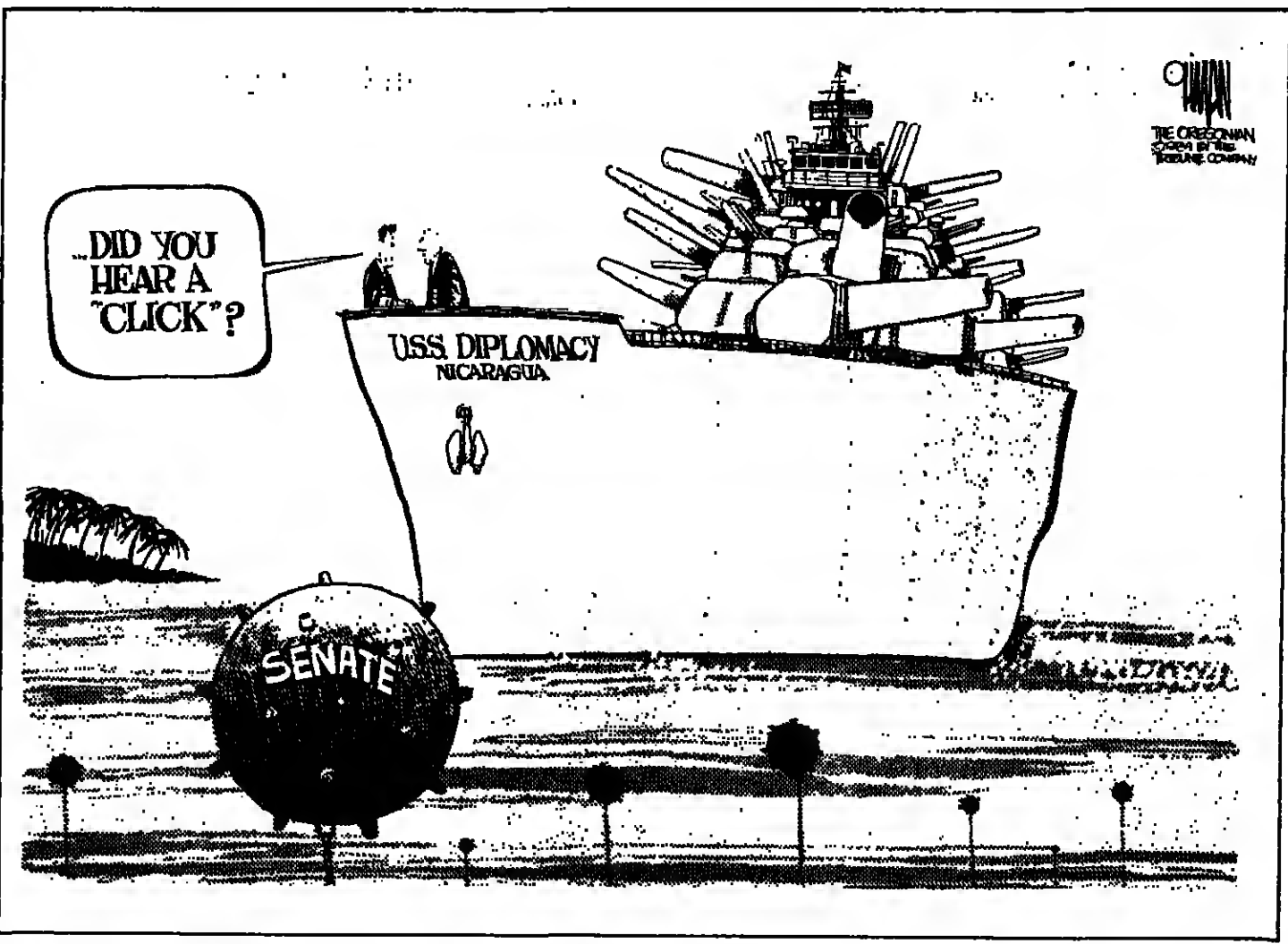
The administration currently imposes control on exports to an annually revised list of countries which the State Department certifies as supporting international terrorism. The current list includes Libya, Syria, the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen, and Cuba. In March 1982 Iraq was dropped from the list but several Congressmen have sought to have it re-included.

Based on ideology

Critics of the broadness of the new bill have pointed out that existing statutes cover all of the criminal acts contemplated under the new act; the difference, they say, is that the new legislation creates an entirely new class of criminal activity based on an ideological judgement made within the State Department. There is likely to be strong opposition in Western Europe to the extra-territorial jurisdiction claimed by the U.S. In the atmosphere created by the recent Anglo-Libyan crisis, and by the general Iranian threat to the Gulf Arabs, it is unlikely the Arab states or the Arab-American organisations will want to oppose the legislation too forcefully or visibly, however suspicious they may be of becoming the targets of the legislation later on.

The administration has tried to assuage these concerns by claiming that "few governments or groups will be named in the section is not intended to interfere with the legitimate international trade in which many U.S. suppliers of services and technology engage". Delay could kill the legislation because there is not much time left for Congress to act.

— Middle East International



Old traps still await Karani

By Randall Palmer

Editor

BEIRUT — The Lebanese have seen it all before: a national unity government, national dialogue conferences, security committees. Muslim demands resisted by Christians, all accompanied by shelling and shooting.

The new unity government, hailed by Prime Minister Rashid Kara ni as a last chance for peace, so closely resembles unsuccessful governments during the 1975-76 civil war that some politicians and analysts question its chances of success.

"If we think that this government is a magic wand that will solve all the problems, we will be disappointed," said Fuad Burros, a former foreign minister who served in six cabinets, although he said he had not given up hope.

Even the names are the same — Mr. Kara ni as prime minister of a unity cabinet that includes right-wing Christian Canille Chamoun and Shiite Muslim Adel Ouseiran, with a G-enayel and a Junblat either in the government or in national dialogue committees.

The theory in forming such cab-

inets is that bringing warring sides together into the government makes it difficult for them to justify breaking the law by using their militias.

But in 1975-76 that did not stop Mr. Chamoun, then minister of the interior, from arming his own illegal militia or President Sulci-man Franjich from supervising the unlawful Zghorta Liberation Army.

And joining the government now has not made Walid Junblat mainly — Druze Progressive Socialist Party (PSP) leader and public works, transport and tourism minister — renounce the use of force and recognise the legitimacy of President Amin G-enayel.

"It does not mean that we have recognised the so-called legality of Amin G-enayel or what he represents," Mr. Junblat said in a recent magazine interview.

Until a deal is worked out on the future of Lebanon, he said, "all parties are entitled to keep their arms". Some other ministers, Muslim and Christian, undoubtedly feel the same way.

The Muslims, who have grown in number and power since Lebanon's political system was set up in 1943 with a bias in favour of the

Christians, are making many of the same demands as in 1975-76.

They want more influence in the government, re-organisation of the army, prevention of the army from taking part in internal Lebanese fighting and a firm policy against Israeli aggression.

The rightwing Christians, perhaps somewhat more realistic and a little more willing to give up power than before the nine years of fighting, still resist every change, every step along the way.

An official close to one of the Christian ministers said the only result of having formed the national unity government "is that they're polite to each other now. There's no agreement on many basic issues."

Sometimes they agree on vaguely-worded principles, but the fighting goes on. Since Mr. Kara ni formed his government on April 30 this year, scores of people have died and hundreds have been wounded.

It is rarely known who starts the clashes. Even assuming the ministers really do want to stop the fighting, they do not control all armed groups, and several leaders have alleged that foreign secret agents constantly stir up trouble.

U.S. Democratic candidates look toward final stretch

By David Espo

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Sen. Gary Hart's twin primary victories in Nebraska and Oregon set up a key battle with former Vice President Walter Mondale in California, New Jersey and three other states on June 5 — a pivotal date on the Democratic presidential election calendar.

For black civil rights leader Jesse Jackson, Tuesday night's two primaries provided further proof that the "rainbow coalition" he hopes to forge from citizens of all races has relatively little white support. He hovered at or below 10 per cent of the vote in the two states with small black populations.

Despite Sen. Hart's overwhelming victories, he still trails far behind Mr. Mondale in the race for delegates at the party's nominating convention in July. His long-shot scenario for winning the nomination hinges on a hoped-for string of late primary victories to demonstrate that he is the strongest candidate to lead the

party against Republican President Ronald Reagan this fall.

That gives Sen. Hart's commanding victories — by a margin of more than 2-1 in Nebraska and nearly that large in Oregon — a significance that exceeds the total of 67 delegates involved. They were, as his campaign manager, Oliver Henkel, said, "exactly the kind of thing we were looking for" leading into the contest in California and New Jersey.

With the final primary day three weeks away, both camps are uncertain enough of the outcome to be working to minimize the damage of a poor showing.

Sen. Hart says that there is no state he must win to keep his chances for the nomination alive — while Mr. Mondale's campaign chairman, James Johnson, insists the former vice president can afford to lose the rest of the primary states and still amass the 1,967 delegates needed for a first ballot nomination.

But each man would be seriously weakened if his claim were put to the test — Sen. Hart more than Mr. Mondale.

It the Colorado Senator loses in California, he would find himself trailing far behind Mr. Mondale in delegates, and a loser in the nation's largest state as well as several earlier industrial state primaries.

As for Mr. Mondale, he does have a strong chance of amassing the 1,967 delegates needed for the nomination when the results are tallied — either on June 5 or afterwards as the final delegate selections are made in caucus states. But he has not won a major primary election since April 11 in Pennsylvania, and losses in California and New Jersey would make him appear to be bucking across the finish-line, rather than gaining the victory under his own power.

But if Mr. Mondale has an exceptionally poor night on June 5, he could lose those two states and fail to gain the number of delegates needed to clinch the nomination.

That would assure a little that continued for six more weeks to the Democratic convention itself — making the date of June 5 not an end, but another beginning.

السلامة

Bavaria had prehistoric trade, evidence shows

By Kenneth C. Danforth

LANDSHUT, West Germany — From the terrace of Trausnitz Castle, high above the red tile roofs and pastel medieval facades of this little Bavarian city, one looks north across the Isar River to a patchwork of fertile fields that rise to a low-running ridge of spruce trees.

The castle is old. But more than 2,000 years before the castle was begun in 1204, families out on that horizon were already building stock pens, weaving cloth, pressing cheese, and making in general the foundations of European society.

It is not from such heights that one learns the enduring story of human achievement in this fertile valley. One must go down from the castle and cross the river to a treeless terrace where the Celts dug in for good. We can be glad that they did dig in, for plowing over the centuries has erased any above ground remains of their houses.

Seek origin of cities

Little known to most Germans, Harvard University archaeologist Peter S. Wells and 14 American students have been out there digging three millennia into their past. They seek in the hard loess soil of these Bavarian hills nothing less than the origin of cities.

Hascherkeller and Altdorf — places not yet in the textbooks — were learning how to meet the challenges of settled life in the late Bronze Age and Early Iron Age. Dr. Wells and his students, mostly from Harvard, are meeting the challenge of reconstructing a prehistoric society out of sheep bones, bits of bronze, clay sherds, and tiny blue glass beads.

"Around 800 B.C.," says Dr. Wells at Altdorf, "something happened."

He straightens up from the carefully sifted dirt from which a small bronze pin has just been lifted, wipes the grime from his brow, and thoughtfully rubs the pin while he places it into the metal data bank he has built up during five summers of scrabbling in this hard earth.

What happened?

"There was a revolution then as important as the neolithic revolution or the industrial revolution. Suddenly, at the end of the Late Bronze Age, we began to have the first commercial settlements. Families could exist in the same place for 200 to 300 years. We can assume they'd learned manuring and crop rotation. Before this time, they had just exhausted the land, and then

moved on."

Work under pressure

The sites where a handful of Celtic farmers first decided not to move on to another field, but to replant where they were, today are at the edge of onrushing residential development. Sometimes Dr. Wells and his students are one day ahead of bulldozers, and their scraping and sifting are often shadowed by mounds of construction dirt.

The Bavarian state archaeological office has funds only for quick rescue of historic artifacts, not for complete analysis, and it welcomes Dr. Wells's work, which is supported by the National Geographic Society.

Dr. Wells's students, for five summers now, have marked off the site meter by meter, scraped the dirt a centimeter at a time, shaken tons of it through screens, washed, sorted, and catalogued the fragments, and painstakingly pieced together the culture of an age thought lost.

"The ground surface where people lived was destroyed in the Iron Age," says Wells. "The settlement level is gone. So all we have comes from pits. Farmers dug down to store their grain. They put storage vessels in their cellars. Often they dug out hollows in workshop areas — for example, to hold their looms."

In weeks of digging at Altdorf last August, Wells's party found three bronze pins that are rounded, with one end pointed, one end knobbed. That tells him that they were used to fasten clothing, for tool pins are flat along their entire length and sharp on both ends.

"Although it is common to find complete jewelry items in graves, it is quite unusual to find them in settlements," says Dr. Wells. "That we found three of these items at Altdorf suggests that they could afford to spare some of the valuable bronze from more essential toolmaking needs."

Copper and tin, the components of bronze, are not found anywhere nearby, so they had to be transported from afar. To Dr. Wells, this means one thing: trade. And trade means that the farmers had a surplus of something.

Weaving implements found

In addition to a possible surplus of grain, which still flourishes here, Wells believes the people were trading wool. His students have found many loom weights and spindle whorls, which is evidence obvious enough. More sophisticated is their analysis of sheep bones.

The bones reveal that the sheep lived to an old age. Thus, Wells says, they were kept for their wool, not their meat. Analysis of



Two Harvard archaeology students screen materials that the students in the background have just excavated from the potholes of an Early Bronze Age house at Altdorf, in Bavaria (N. Geographic photo)

pig bones proves that they were always slaughtered before they were two years old, confirming their use for meat.

The notion that Europeans were engaged in active trade as long ago as 800 to 1000 B.C. goes against popular concepts of "barbarians" who had to be taught every vestige of civilization by Greeks and Romans.

Dr. Wells believes that trade was the major vehicle not just for the exchange of goods, but for ideas. He scorns old theories of mass migrations of tribes across Europe — those familiar red and blue arrows that sweep across the pages of textbooks.

"Those theories are dramatic,"

says Dr. Wells, "but they aren't supported by evidence. I believe most people stayed home."

Among those who did not stay at home were traders coming more than 100 miles from the famous salt mines at Hallstatt, which today is an Austrian resort.

"The people in this valley probably bought their salt from Hallstatt," says Dr. Wells. "The communities were contemporaneous, but there was an essential difference. Here everyone was involved in the growing of food, and they had some surplus that they could trade. At Hallstatt there were people devoted solely to commerce."

Prehistoric luxury items

"What allowed places like Hallstatt to have a thriving commercial life? The fact that places like Altdorf and Hascherkeller were producing surpluses. Usually, the people here were not trading for things they needed, but for frills, such as the little blue beads we find here, and graphite, which they used for decorative glazing on their pottery."

"So these early activities were creating 'needs' for things that they had gotten along just fine without. This early trade stimulated farmers to produce more food so they could buy things, and

it stimulated commercial centers to produce more things to sell."

Dr. Wells plans to return here in summer 1984 to complete his study of the hamlets. In the meantime, his methods and findings are receiving high marks.

"Professor Wells's work is at the leading edge of archaeology on the continent," says Colin Renfrew, renowned Cambridge University archaeologist and author of "Before Civilization."

Asked if he knew what Wells meant when he said "something happened" in 800 B.C., Mr. Renfrew replied, "Of course. From then on, Europe really became Europe."

— National Geographic feature.

Natural disasters: God's or man's acts?

STOCKHOLM — An Earthscan press seminar on "Natural disasters" is being organized in association with the Swedish Red Cross on Wednesday June 13, 1984 in Sweden.

Floods, droughts, famines, hurricanes, earthquakes, volcanoes and other "natural disasters" are traditionally seen as unpredictable Acts of God, to be treated with blankets, tents and food parcels. A new report from the Swedish Red Cross, however, will argue that "natural" disasters are overwhelmingly man-made, and can be prevented by changing the human actions and policies which cause them.

Floods, droughts and famines are triggered by too much or too little rainfall, but are caused by deforestation, soil erosion, over-

grazing, overcultivation and unwise agricultural policies.

Earthquakes, hurricanes, volcanoes and tsunamis are themselves certainly largely unpredictable Acts of God, but the human disaster they cause is magnified by environmental mismanagement. People living in adobe shacks on steep hillsides die in earthquakes for more than those who have properly-built houses on solid, flat land.

Overwhelmingly, it is poor people in poor countries who are most vulnerable to natural disasters. Instead of flying in emergency relief, which is often totally unsuitable and undermines the ability of people to cope with future disasters, the Swedish Red Cross hopes to focus more and more on disaster-prevention: identifying disaster-prone areas, and the most

vulnerable people within those areas, and trying to reduce their vulnerability.

But this means tackling poverty, which many national Red Cross societies feel is an abandonment of their traditional neutrality.

The Swedish Red Cross report is likely to provoke considerable controversy among voluntary and government relief agencies. It is suggesting a radical re-appraisal of relief work, which will be opposed by many other components of the Red Cross movement. However, the fact that this analysis comes from the Red Cross, traditionally the most conservative and respectable of the relief agencies, means it will command more attention than if it came from one of the more radical agencies such as Oxfam or CARE.

To launch the report, the Swedish Red Cross will hold a symposium of about 50 high-level experts from the Red Cross and other relief agencies in Lidingö, some 14 kilometres from Stockholm, June 13-14, 1984.

Earthscan will hold its press seminar at the same time and in the same conference centre. Journalists will have access to the symposium participants, who will include the heads of SIDA, the World Food Programme, and the League of Red Cross societies, and senior officials from Colombia, Ethiopia, India, Mauritania, Zimbabwe and Uganda.

A major Earthscan briefing document on "natural" disasters, and the Swedish Red Cross report, will be available in advance of the seminar. — Earthscan feature.

Non-flickering piety

By the Reverend Musa Adeli

IN OUR modern world where most things are valued commercially — and if they fail to register on that index are automatically disregarded — it is heartening to find held dear values which have no commercial aim or advantage. I am speaking here of religious life as we see it lived within the context of the Catholic Church. It is a value, not always understood admittedly, but almost always appreciated, not only by Christians but by those of non-Christian religions.

Two anecdotes will serve to illustrate what I mean: the first involving a Christian and the second a Muslim.

Recently I was visiting my home in Fuhais and my mother asked, "How is sister X?" "Very bad," I replied. "The cancer has now started in her bones and she is really suffering a great deal. Do you remember she came with me some years ago on a pilgrimage to Lourdes (A shrine in France) to ask a favour from Our Blessed Lady in regard her illness..."

Before I could say any more, my father, who was playing cards with his friend Abu Ahmad, said: "Strange. Very strange. She asked a favour of St. Maria (Our Lady), and she did not obtain it? I find that very strange." With that he returned to playing cards. My father does not attend church regularly, any more than Abu-Ahmad does, but he has such a regard for those who give themselves to God in the religious life that he simply cannot understand how anything they would ask for could be refused. In his own words, it is very strange.

The second story concerns a Muslim taxi-driver, and was told to me by an English Franciscan sister living in Amman. Sister was travelling one day in a taxi and in order to practise her Arabic she began speaking with the driver. He was an elderly man and very easy to converse with. After a little while he asked sister how long she had been so. She told him she had been sister for almost 30 years. He said nothing for a little while, then added, "I think it is just wonderful. Thirty years! And you still look young. You have an attractive face! Aren't 30 years long enough? Why not leave that way of life now and marry and have children and then one of your daughters could go to the convent? Would not that be much the same thing? I find it a pity

that you have never married — but there is still time!"

Sister then explained a few things. Firstly, being in her mid-fifties the possibility of family was nil! Secondly, it was her freely chosen way of life, a way she had re-chosen every single day since 1954. Thirdly, she was happy, totally fulfilled and lacked nothing. Fourthly — and this one she turned into a question — why would she wish to leave someone who had been total goodness in her for all these years, and go off and seek another?

She then went on to explain that being a religious was not a contract as such but a one-to-one love relationship, a relationship which deepens year by year. It would be easier to cut oneself in half than break that relationship. Her fifth point was again in the form of a question. "What would you think," she asked the driver "if after years of happy marriage your wife said, enough, I want to make a change, there is nothing wrong, in fact everything is right, but thirty years is a long time?"

There was quite a long pause after which the driver said, "I understand now as I have never understood before. I always knew nuns did good works but I did not realise that they are, in a sense, married, and therefore bound to one partner for life, in love." Another pause and then he said, "I think it is wonderful, just wonderful, not you must not change. God is better than all men. You have chosen well."

We all know that those in religious life — the Brothers and the Sisters, do good work. We see that here in Amman. The Brothers and the Sisters teach in various schools and we know that the standard of education in those schools is very high. We have Sisters running clinics, hospitals, homes for the poor etc. All these works are done with deep dedication. But do we ever stop to think and ask ourselves what the source of that dedication is? Anyone can be a good nurse, a good teacher, a good social worker etc. What makes the works done by religious that bit different from the same work done by others? It is of course this deep personal relationship with God which causes one to give of oneself best. The Christian Brother or Sister sees all men in Christ and Christ in all men. It is this dimension which gives that extra something in his or her work for others.

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City of Liverpool celebrates grand slam

Everton wins F.A. Cup

LONDON (R) — Everton completed a famous grand slam for Merseyside by winning the English Football Association (F.A.) Cup for the first time since 1966 with a 2-0 victory over Watford in a highly entertaining final at Wembley here Saturday.

With neighbours Liverpool taking the League title, League Cup and Charity Shield, goals by Everton's Scottish strike force of Graeme Sharp and Andy Gray gave the northwest English city a clean sweep of England's four major trophies this season.

But Watford, languishing in the fourth division seven years ago, emerged from their first Wembley appearance with great credit and their all-action style made it a fitting finale.

At the end of the day, however, Everton's sophistication was too much for Watford's suspect defence and after surviving a series of early scares they struck two killer blows in a 13-minute spell on either side of the interval.

The opener came in the 38th minute when Trevor Steven moved deep into opposition territory. As Watford's defence surged forward in a bid to catch Everton's attack offside, Steven timed a through pass to perfection and the unmarked Sharp beat goalkeeper Steve Sherwood with a crisp left-footer from 12 metres.

Sherwood, who did not enjoy the happiest of Wembley debuts, was criminally negligent on the second goal six minutes into the second half.

He took his eyes off a long hanging cross from Steven, allowed the ball to slip from his fingers and the rugged Gray brushed off a weak challenge by Steve Terry to head the ball over the line from three metres.

The match never regained its former momentum after that but few in the capacity 100,000 crowd will forget what had gone before.

With Watford employing their usual 'cavalry charge' tactics, thereby exposing their inexperienced defence to Everton's swift counterattacks, both goalkeepers were under fire from the kickoff as

play switched excitingly from end to end.

Everton's Nevill Southall was the first to see action when a prodigious throw-in from Lee Sinnott sailed deep into the penalty area to the unmarked John Barnes six metres out.

The England winger met the ball flush on his forehead and Southall had to produce a superb diving save to deny Watford what could have been a vital early breakthrough.

Stung into action, Everton twice went close through Kevin Richardson, who hit the side netting from an acute angle, and Adrian Heath before Peter Reid went agonisingly near with a fierce drive from the edge of the box which whistled past Sherwood's left-hand post.

Southall, reduced to the role of spectator while all this was going on, quickly found himself under attack again.

Barnes set off on an intricate run across the front of the Everton penalty area and although he delayed 11 is shot a fraction too long. Southall could only parry his thunderous right-footer to the in-

rushing Les Taylor who shaved the post from 22 metres.

But Watford were less of an attacking force in the second half, though they did come back into the game when Paul Atkinson came on as substitute in midfield with Kenny Jackett switching to leftback.

Not surprisingly, young Neil Price, standing in for suspended captain Wilf Rostron, was the man to go off. Like the pre-match brass bands, the 20-year-old Price played at Wembley but barely got a touch of the ball.

Everton, by contrast, grew in confidence as the game wore on and the sight of Kevin Ratcliffe clutching the F.A. Cup must have been more than adequate compensation for any disappointment felt in March when they lost the League Cup final 1-0 to Liverpool.

Everton manager Howard Kendall said: "Early on we were not playing to well and gave Watford too many chances. But they did not really take them and after that I thought we controlled it ever so well."

"It means a lot to the club because we have had to sit back and admire what Liverpool have done over the years," he said.

For Watford, manager Graham Taylor said: "We came here to win but the breaks did not come our way when we needed them. We needed the rub of the green at vital times but we did not get it today."

Olympic talks fail to reverse Soviet boycott

LAUSANNE, Switzerland (R) — The International Olympic movement and the U.S. organisers of the Los Angeles Games were resigned Saturday to the failure of an attempt to persuade the Soviet Union and its allies to reverse their boycott decision.

Marat Gramov, Soviet Olympic committee chief, sat silent and grim-faced Friday night as International Olympic Committee (IOC) President Juan Antonio

Samaranch told a crowded press conference the Olympic movement deplored the Soviet decision.

Samaranch said he believed the U.S. authorities and organisers had not violated the Olympic Charter through excessive commercialism, and had given adequate security guarantees.

The Soviet Union has cited lack of protection for its athletes as the main reason for its decision.

Tambay retains pole position in French race

DIJON, France (R) — Heavy rain Saturday marred final practice for the French Grand Prix motor race here Sunday, leaving Frenchman Patrick Tambay in pole position.

The weather wrecked any idea Italy's Andrea de Cesaris had of setting a qualifying time after he was ruled out Friday, but the Italian benefited from the magnanimity of French Ligier teammate Francois Hesnault and will be in the race.

De Cesaris set the ninth fastest time Friday, but the stewards ruled him out after they found his fire extinguisher empty in a post-practice check.

Saturday he was nearly 11 seconds outside the time set Friday by slowest qualifier Piercarlo Ghinzani of Italy, but Hesnault offered to step down to enable de Cesaris to compete.

Team chief Guy Ligier said he had decided to withdraw Hesnault's car following the offer by the French driver, who is in his first Formula One season. De Cesaris will start at the back of the grid, race officials said.

The rain made Saturday's times meaningless. With Britain's Nigel Mansell recording the day's quickest lap in his Lotus, nearly 18 seconds outside the one minute 2.300 seconds clocked by Tambay's Renault Friday.

Hesnault was in good form Saturday, recording the second fas-

test time in the unofficial morning session and the third in the afternoon. The rain eased after the final session on the 3.8 km track.

Tambay and British teammate Derek Warwick hope to extend Renault's three-year French Grand Prix reign Sunday, but they will be hard put to stop the pace-setting McLarens of Alain Prost and Niki Lauda.

Prost, twice winner of the race, leads the World Championship standings with 24 points, 11 ahead of Warwick, as he chases the world crown which has always eluded French drivers.

He and former World Champion Lauda have won three of this year's four Grands Prix, leaving only the Belgian Grand Prix to the Ferrari of Italy's Michele Alboreto.

Tambay, whose best effort this season was sixth in the opening race in Rio de Janeiro, lines up on the grid alongside the Lotus of Italian Elio de Angelis.

Reigning World Champion Nelson Piquet of Brazil, yet to score a point this season in his Brabham, is third, and his predecessor, Keke Rosberg of Finland, fourth. The Finn won the last Dijon Grand Prix — the "re-routed" Swiss — in 1982.

Prost, who won his first Grand Prix here three years ago, is fifth and Lauda ninth.

New ball proposed for World Soccer Cup finals

ZURICH (R) — A new synthetic football is to be used for the Olympic soccer tournament in Los Angeles and may be used for the 1986 World Cup in Mexico, a senior International Football Federation (FIFA) official said Friday night.

Harry Cavan, FIFA senior vice-president, said the ball was thought to be as durable and was cheaper than the present high quality leather balls.

It would be tested in next month's European Championships in France and the World Youth Championships next year and if found suitable would be used in Mexico.

Cavan is also chairman of the FIFA referees' committee which decided here Friday not to proceed with a proposal that trios of referees with the same nationality should be appointed for the 1986 World Soccer Cup finals in Mexico.

The proposal envisaged that the trios would work together as a team during the preliminary rounds and would themselves have to go through a qualifying process for Mexico.

Cavan who comes from Northern Ireland told Reuters: "There was the time factor as the qualifying rounds have already started."

He added: "Besides, the committee was not entirely convinced that the proposal as conceived would enhance performance. We will look at it again later with the 1990 World Cup in mind."

Meanwhile, a weighty agenda faces the executive committee meeting with football hooliganism, the aftermath of the Belgian bribery scandal and the host country for the 1990 World Cup among issues to be discussed.

Italy staged the finals in 1934 but the other remaining candidate, the Soviet Union, have never done so. A FIFA source felt that the boycott by the Soviet Union of the Olympics could influence the decision.

The FIFA Congress meets on Monday.

Fun Run set for May 25

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Hash House Harriers will hold a sponsored "Fun Run" on Friday May 25 to help raise money for the International Community School (ICS) amenities fund and library.

The run will be held at the ICS, time of assembly is 8.00 a.m. and the time of the run is 8.30 a.m.

There will be a five and ten kilometre runs and all runners finishing the circuits will receive a certificate. Runners of all ages are catered for with several age classes.

5 km run: Males — 0-10, 11-14, 15-18, 19 and above. Females — 0-10, 11-14, 15-18, 19 and above.

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Engraved medallions will be awarded to the first and second in each class and trophies will be given to the fastest male and female runners over each distance. The race is open to all and entry forms are available from the ICS or the Hash House Secretary. Closing date for entry is Wednesday May 23.

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Arab teams looking for Olympic glory

By Hamza Hendawi
Reuter

BAHRAIN — For the five Arab soccer teams in this summer's Los Angeles Olympic soccer tournament, the bruising and sometimes violent encounters they went through to get there are now only memories.

But the memories of their hard-fought qualifying matches could turn sweet in comparison with the battles of tactics, skill and stamina they face against well-drilled Olympic giants such as East Germany, Czechoslovakia or the Soviet Union.

Egypt, Morocco, Saudi Arabia, Qatar and Iraq are among 14 teams who won Olympic berths. The United States, as hosts, and Czechoslovakia, as holders, qualified automatically.

Egypt's final qualifying match against Algeria earlier this year saw a nasty bout of Olympic violence when riot police were called on to the pitch to control brawls between players after 90 minutes of rough play.

Things got worse last month in Singapore where 10 nations, including New Zealand, fought for the three places assigned for the so-called Asia and Oceania region.

Among the stars of the Singapore tournament were the local riot police who were in action several times to stop fighting on the pitch or to subdue angry fans.

Saudi Arabia, who stunned spectators in Singapore with impressive wins over fabled Kuwait and South Korea, were pulled out of the hat for Los Angeles last week along with East Germany, Brazil and Morocco in Group 'C'.

East Germany, runners-up to Czechoslovakia in the 1980 Moscow Olympics, are longtime masters of Olympic soccer.

Brazil, whose magical ball-juggling millionaires are obviously banned from the Olympics, will seek gold with a team of second division players nevertheless likely to be the most skilful in the tournament.

But traditional Brazilian football skills have been exported and there will be more than a touch of Brazil in the style of the Saudi team, coached for three years by former Brazilian hero Mario Zagallo until he was sacked in March.

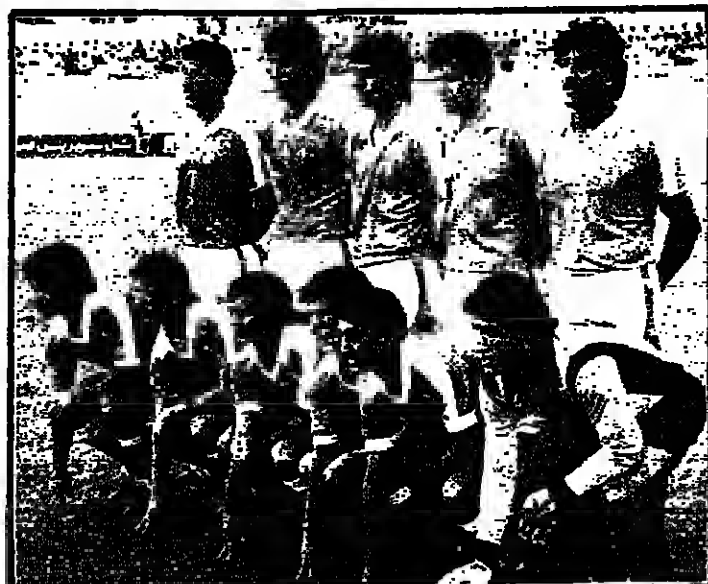
The Saudis' chances could hinge on the performance of their fast and talented forwards, Majid Abdullah and Mehaisen Al Dosari, who rattled in 12 goals between them in just four matches in Singapore.

Majid has been dubbed "The Desert Pele" by the Asian press because of his dark skin, ball control and deadly finishing.

The Saudis have their sights set on gold and, with King Fahd and his ruling family keen soccer fans, money is no object in their Olympic preparations.

Zagallo was sacked following a humiliating defeat at the hands of the Iraqis in a Gulf Cup match in Oman.

A Saudi, Khalil Al Zayani, took over, and gave the side the confidence and morale to match the skills imparted by the Brazilian and win their qualifying group.



Gulf Cup champions Iraq, one of five Arab teams in this summer's Los Angeles Olympics.

The confidence of the Saudis contrasts with a down-to-earth approach in Morocco, where soccer officials say they are none too happy about their Olympic chances as a result of the draw.

One official said the prospect of meeting East Germany on July 30 "does not exactly fill us with joy."

Morocco, coached by Brazilian Jose Faria, were last in the Olympic finals in 1972. They made it to Los Angeles by pipping Nigeria in a penalty shootout after two goalless draws.

Moroccan officials, facing criticism for recent poor performances, say two months of intensive training are planned.

Egypt, who have not reached the Olympic finals since the 1964 Tokyo games, are in Group 'D' with the Soviet Union, the United States and Costa Rica, a draw which could put them in with a better chance than the Saudis or Moroccans.

Egypt's squad is likely to be the one that finished a dismal fourth in the African Nations' Cup in the Ivory Coast last March.

Masters of blanket defence and counter-attack, the Egyptians include some of Africa's best-travelled players.

The lethal left-foot and incisive passes of midfielder Taher Abu Zeid, the omnipresence of Magdy Abdul Ghan and Shawkil Gharib and the coolness of sweeper Ibrahim Youssef could just help the Egyptians into the last eight.

Managed by Egyptian Abdou Saleh Al Wahsh, the Egyptians' other key players are defenders Rabia Yassin and Maher Hamam, while they have two inspiring goalkeepers in Thabet Al Batal and his substitute Ikrami Al Shahat.

Former Asian Champions Iraq are pitched in "Group 'B' with Canada, Cameroon and Yugoslavia. They made it to Los Angeles by beating South Korea 1-0 in a play-off between the runners-up of each group in the Asia and Oceania qualifying tournament in Singapore.

The Iraqis, who reached the 1980 Moscow Olympic finals, had to play off in Singapore after going down 0-2 to fellow Gulf Arabs Qatar in a violent match in which Singapore riot police had to break up fist and boot fights and protect the referee.

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For the Qataris, it was sweet revenge for losing the Gulf Cup to Iraq in Oman in March after a penalty shoot-out.

Among Iraq's star players are forward Hussein Said, who netted seven times in the Oman tournament, and sweeper Adnan Derjal who booked the Iraq's ticket to Los Angeles with a thunderous 35-metre shot in the play-off against South Korea.

Qatar, coached by Brazilian Everesto de Massido, are in Group 'A' with holders Czechoslovakia, Chile and France.

With their fast, attacking game, the Qataris cruised to the Olympic finals without losing a game in Singapore. Their squad includes at least nine of the team that came second to West Germany in the 1981 junior World Cup in Australia.

Midfielder Ibrahim Khalaf and forwards Khaled Salman and Mansour Mufah could be their key to a chunk of Olympic glory.

Holmes says fight postponed

LAS VEGAS (R) — International Boxing Federation (IBF) heavyweight champion Larry Holmes announced Friday his financially-troubled title fight with South African Gerrie Coetzee has been postponed until early July at a site to be selected.

The 15-round bout between Holmes and Coetzee, who holds the World Boxing Association (WBA) title, was originally scheduled for June 8 in Las Vegas at Caesars Palace.

Holmes made the announcement prior to breaking training camp in Las Vegas and returning home to Eason, Pennsylvania.

"My training schedule has been interrupted by so many problems," said Holmes, who has missed at least one day of training because of negotiations to salvage the fight.

"The postponement gives both Gerrie and me time to train without distractions."

Holmes said a new promotional group had been selected to replace JPD Sports of Dallas, Texas. He said the group would be announced next week.

"All the money is up front this time," said Holmes, who began negotiations to salvage the fight after Caesars Palace announced last Tuesday that it had pulled out as the site for the June 8 contest because of a breach of contract by JPD.

"This way neither Gerrie, myself or the public will have to worry about when or if the fight will happen. The public wants this fight to happen. This fight is the peoples choice. I am the people's champion and I care about the people," he added.

Holmes said the bout would probably take place in Nevada — in either Las Vegas or Reno.

Holmes met all day Thursday with officials of Caesars Palace, which had already spent about \$750,000 on a 26,000-seat outdoor arena, in an attempt to save the fight.

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California oil drilling boom is subsiding

By William Hall

SANTA BARBARA, California — As the Pacific coast highway winds its way north from Los Angeles, old wooden piers begin to dot the coastline, supporting nodding donkey engines which have been pumping oil from underneath the ocean for as long as anyone can remember. But these days it is the recently arrived fleet of offshore rigs, stretching as far as the eye can see, which distracts attention from the beautiful coastline.

It is just three years since Chevron and Phillips stunned their competitors by putting in a record-breaking \$333.6 million bid for a nine square mile tract of prime offshore property in California's Santa Maria basin. A year and a half later they confounded the sceptics and announced the discovery of the giant Point Arguello oil field 15 miles offshore — the most significant discovery in the U.S. since Alaska's Prudhoe Bay in 1969. The Santa Maria basin was quickly dubbed the "hottest oil play" in the U.S. and a veritable armada of drilling rigs has been working round the clock ever since delving into the content and size of the discoveries.

However, the early euphoria which accompanied the discovery of Point Arguello and the more than half dozen other new fields has begun to evaporate and the drilling boom of the last couple of years is subsiding. While the oil companies are confident that there is plenty more oil to be found off California's coastline, moratoriums on both federal and state lease sales have sharply reduced the acreage available for exploration and permitting delays are slowing the pace of development of existing discoveries.

Although it is much less expensive and far easier, logistically, to look for oil a few miles off the California coastline than in the inhospitable Arctic environment, the U.S. oil majors are beginning to wonder whether the returns at the end of the day will be any higher. California's latest oil boom has its own special set of problems. Most geologists now believe that when the Santa Maria fields are added to new discoveries in the neighbouring Santa Barbara channel and San Pedro Bay, offshore California will have added at least 1 billion barrels to U.S. reserves and probably considerably more in the years ahead. While this is still a far cry from the estimated 4.6 billion barrels of recoverable oil and the 26 trillion cubic feet of natural gas found underneath Alaska's Prudhoe Bay, it is far larger than anything else being discovered. Given that

the U.S. is currently replacing less than two-thirds of its production of 3 billion barrels a year and its reserves are now below the 30 billion barrels mark, offshore California has become one of the prime areas for offshore exploration as America searches for fresh reserves to quench an appetite which is once again rising rapidly.

California's offshore production of around 84,000 barrels a day currently accounts for less than 1 per cent of total U.S. production, but it is expected to grow to around 450,000 barrels a day within the next decade and the optimists are talking the figure up to 700,000 barrels a day.

Mr. George Keller, chairman of Standard Oil of California, whose Chevron subsidiary has been very much the pacesetter in the offshore California oil rush, is one of the optimists, arguing that "the entire offshore southern California region promises to be a major area of exploration and production activity over the next decade."

"The favourable combination of low exploration risk and high potential for the discovery of significant amounts of crude oil and natural gas" is what attracted Chevron, Mr. Keller is confident that new discoveries in the area will reverse its declining U.S. production. Chevron's commitment is reflected in its aggressive bidding for a total of 76 state and federal leases in the Santa Maria basin and Santa Barbara channel, more than any other oil company. All told, U.S. oil companies have spent close to \$4 billion for exploratory leases in federal waters off the California coast.

Oil men suspect that if they were given a free hand to look for oil off California the area might come close to matching petroleum basins like the North Sea or the Gulf of Mexico in terms of importance for the industry.

"The U.S. Minerals Management Service, which supervises the leasing of tracts in the outer continental shelf (basically everything beyond the three mile limit), has estimated the existing offshore California reserves at just over 1 billion barrels and suggested that another 4 billion barrels could be found beyond the three mile limit which divides federal waters from state waters. Yet for several reasons the oil industry is having second thoughts about the short-term importance of offshore California in their hunt for oil.

Many of the most attractive offshore prospects have been declared off limits to the oil companies as California has been one of the areas hardest hit.

Congress report faults U.S. on energy preparedness

WASHINGTON (R) — A congressional report said the United States might not be able to meet its obligations to help its allies with oil should the Iran-Iraq war shut off Gulf supplies.

The House of Representatives Committee on Government Operations said Friday the U.S. itself would probably not go short although prices would probably rise substantially.

But it questioned whether the U.S. would be ready to meet its obligations under the international energy agreement providing for oil-sharing in the event of a major supply disruption.

The extensive inquiry found

serious shortcomings in emergency preparedness policies, it said. It conceded that the U.S. was better able to withstand an oil shock than 10 years ago, although not as well off as the Reagan administration had been saying.

Oklahoma Democrat Mike Synar, a committee member, said in a statement the administration's current policy amounted to "little more than wishful thinking".

The report said a year-long inquiry showed serious management

problems and lack of standby plans.

The United States imports 4.4 billion barrels of its 15.2 billion barrel daily oil needs, only five per cent of it from the Gulf. But its allies in Western Europe and Japan are economically dependent on supplies from the region.

The administration has vowed to keep oil moving through the narrow Strait of Hormuz, but in recent days there have been several attacks on shipping by both Iraq and Iran, according to U.S. officials.

The result has been a jump in the spot price of oil on the open market and a major increase in insurance rates for shipping opera-

rating in the Gulf.

The United States has about 400 million barrels stored in its Strategic Petroleum Reserve (SPR) and could remove about 2.1 million barrels a day if it were needed, according to Department of energy officials.

Mr. Synar told reporters the administration had never disclosed under what conditions it would dip into the reserve and if a plan existed it should be released to calm public fears.

The report also particularly criticised the lack of a plan to help out poorer sections of American society and said the implications for farmers, small businesses, low-income, elderly and other groups must be considered.

North Sea oil prices soar

ROTTERDAM (R) — North Sea crude oil prices jumped to an eight-month high Friday after Iraq said its air force attacked two large ships south of Iran's Kharg Island terminal, traders said.

Operators said Britain's Brent Grade was quoted at \$30.60 to \$30.75 a barrel, 75 cents above the official government price and up from Thursday's range of \$29.95 to \$30.

Brent prices first reached an eight-month peak on Wednesday when the market reacted with alarm to news that a Saudi tanker was strafed near the country's vital Ras Tanura oil terminal, but price levels eased Thursday as market tension subsided.

Speculative trading is dominating the market, as it has since attacks on tankers in the Gulf last Sunday and Monday.

OECD agrees on expanded trade

PARIS (AP) — High U.S. interest rates and Third World debt still concern major industrialised countries, but 24 nations attending an economic conference here agreed with the United States that expanded trade is essential to sustaining economic recovery.

The first two issues remained unresolved Friday at the conclusion of a two-day ministerial conference of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), but participants submerged their differences in a statement emphasising trade, fiscal restraint and stable monetary policy.

The U.S. delegation to the conference blunted European criticism of high American interest rates and a large federal deficit with figures showing a vigorous U.S. recovery and Thursday's Senate vote for a "down payment" next year on a trimmer budget.

Led by Treasury Secretary

Donald Regan, the delegation also made a strong pitch for the viewing dispute by some present, that the problem of massive Third World debt has been brought under control by the current Western strategy.

Though the United States remained firm on its current economic policy, the concerns of its partners were recognised in the final communiqué, which said that "large budget deficits can leave a legacy of high public debt... [and] high interest rates."

Most of the progress reflected in the final document concerned the lowering of trade barriers and other ways to stimulate international trade. A number of tariff cuts set to take effect in 1986 under the General Agreement on Trade and Tariffs (GATT) were moved up to 1985.

The meeting resulted in a "clear political commitment" to opening up international trade, conference

chairman and Finnish Foreign Trade Minister Jernu I sine concluded.

No agreement was reached, however, on the use of so-called "mixed credits," which combine foreign aid and trade credits. The Americans had sought a tough stance against this practice currently in use by France and others to promote export sales.

Mr. Regan sought to bolster European confidence in the staying power of the U.S. economic recovery, which is looked to as a driving force for recovery in Europe and the Third World.

Mr. Regan also challenged the conventional European analysis that U.S. budget deficits threaten the recovery process.

"I am very tired of hearing that the durability of the world's economic recovery hinges on a reduction of the U.S. budget deficit," he said.

Egypt's skilled workers seeking better life abroad

By Robert Reid

CAIRO — Every year, tens of thousands of Egyptians, among them the nation's finest doctors, engineers and skilled workers, leave their homeland for high-paying jobs abroad.

Many return within five or six years to buy property, invest money or set up private businesses. But others, especially physicians and other highly trained professionals, remain abroad, contributing their skills to the economies of Kuwait, Britain, the United States, Canada and other countries.

Their loss places a heavy burden of plans for developing and modernising the economy of what was traditionally one of the most advanced countries in the Arab World. "Certainly we have a problem,"

Albert Barsoum Salama, minister of emigration, told the Associated Press. "But under the constitution, Egyptians have the right to leave the country and return. We cannot lessen the problem by preventing Egyptians from leaving, but by training skilled workers in every field."

The Ministry of Emigration, established in 1981 to cope with the flood of workers abroad, estimates there are at least 3.5 million Egyptians living, working and studying in foreign countries, mostly in the Arab World.

Some experts believe the number may be closer to 5 million.

Although the vast majority leave legally, others slip across the border with Libya, travelling at night by desert caravans using the stars to guide their way.

As in many Third World countries, the reason for the "Egyptian brain drain" is primarily economic.

For example, an experienced Egyptian secondary school teacher who earns 150 pounds (\$180) a month at home can reap 10-15 times that amount in Saudi Arabia, Kuwait or other Gulf states, where instructors fluent in Arabic are in short supply.

A graduate of an Egyptian medical school can look forward to a meagre 60 pounds (\$72) a month starting salary in a state-run hospital but can earn that much in a day in certain Western countries.

As a result, government figures show that for the past several years, one out of every four medical school graduates leaves Egypt, some for good. Cairo

Today magazine quoted a private study as showing that in 1978-1979, two-thirds of the 820 Egyptians studying for Ph.D. degrees abroad did not return home after their studies.

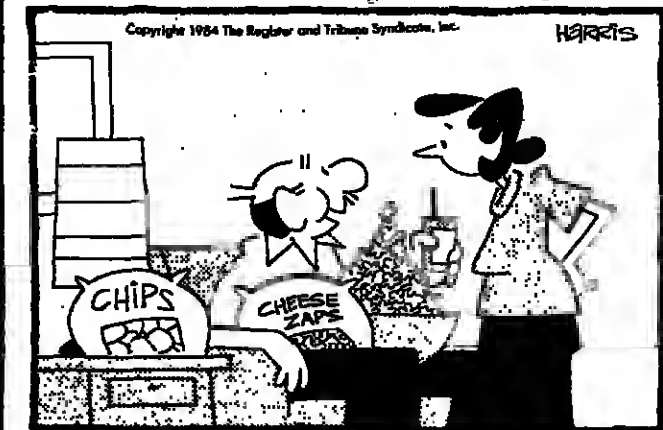
The exodus of workers is not limited to the highly skilled or best educated.

Egyptians work abroad in jobs as wide-ranging as skilled engineers in Algeria, doctors in Kuwait or ditch-diggers in Iraq. Hundreds of Egyptian peasants, dressed in distinctive flowing galabiyas, robes, can be seen every day in airports throughout the Middle East heading home with suitcases stuffed full of television sets, tape recorders or Japanese radios.

The loss of skilled labour is felt in wide areas of the economy.

THE BETTER HALF

By Harris

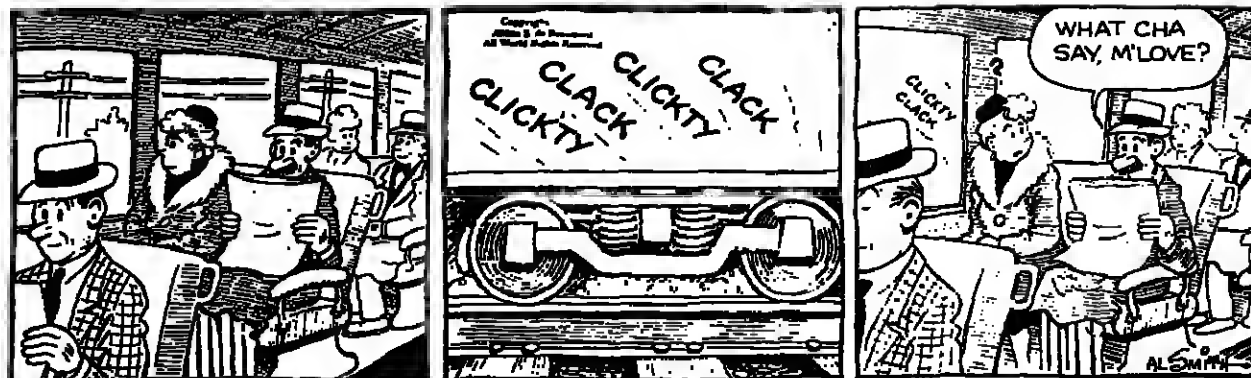


"I almost lost a half-pound this week. That calls for a celebration!"

Peanuts



Mutt 'n' Jeff



Andy Capp



Saudis ban imports from South Lebanon

BEIRUT (R) — Saudi Arabia has banned imports from Israeli-occupied South Lebanon, officials in the Lebanese Chamber of Commerce and Industry said Saturday.

The ban reverses an arrangement worked out in early 1983 (a day Saudi fears that Israel would try to use its presence in Lebanon to market goods on Arab markets through the back door.

Under the arrangement Saudi

officials said the Saudis were still accepting goods from the rest of Lebanon, although confusion had arisen over where exporters should get certificates of origin.

FORECAST FOR SUNDAY, MAY 20, 1984

YOUR DAILY Horoscope

from the Carroll Righter Institute

GENERAL TENDENCIES: The last two days found you benefiting through conventional means but now you find a distinctly different influence — one in which you want to accomplish matters of a modern nature.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Contact modern thinking friends and find out how you can become more affluent. Avoid one who limits you.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) A touch of class put into whatever you are doing can make life more interesting for you now.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) You can get fine new ideas today and should concentrate on the best way to utilize them. Get away from dull duties.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) You can make a fine impression via your talents, so stop being so conservative and self-effacing.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) Ideal day to get out in the entertainment world and relieve tensions you have been under for some time. Be active and happy.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) If you have ideas that are different from the norm, go along with them since they can be of assistance to you.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) You are charming today and can please others very much. It is possible to take a chance and win now what ordinarily you could not do.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Use that campaign quality you have to please those who are near and dear to you. Forget your personal desires for awhile.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Some special activity can impress your partners, though they are started at first. Enjoy home and family.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Study more modern ways of adding to your property and possessions. Plan how to add to a bank account. Cut down on expenses.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) You have rather unusual ideas which could prove successful if you put them in motion. Attend a meeting.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Get into the privacy of your study and tap your subconscious for fine ideas. Do something that will impress your mate.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY... he or she will be one who will have unusual talents quite different from the norm, so be encouraging in this, since your progeny may be ahead of his or her time and can become very successful. Discipline gently as this is a sensitive nature.

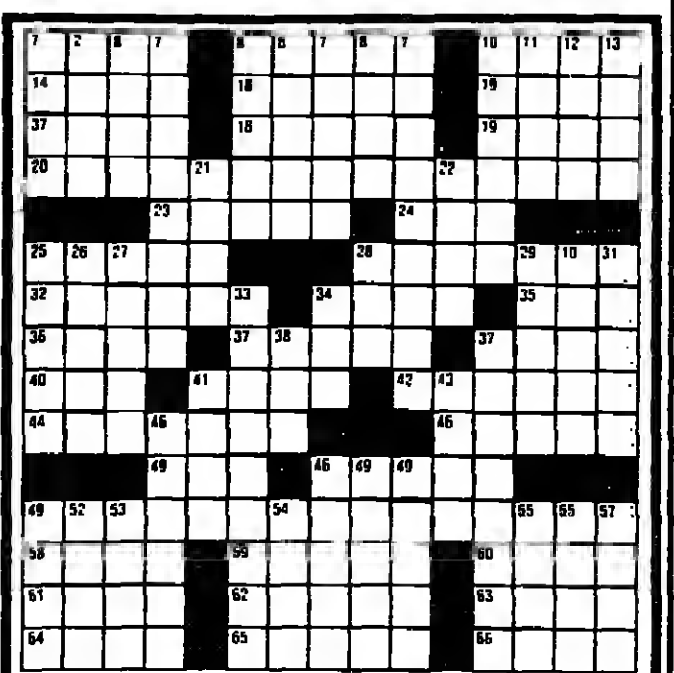
"The Stars impel; they do not compel." What you make of your life is largely up to you!
© 1984, The McNaught Syndicate, Inc.

THE Daily Crossword

by Kathryn Righter

ACROSS	23 Below	51 Life-saving item	25 Transparencies
1 Thin wedge for leveling	24 Pasture	58 Celebes ox	26 Hospital employee
5 Rescued	25 Hair holder	59 Disease of eye	27 Beginning of forest
10 Gentle	26 Supporting shafts	60 Choir	28 God of the lost
14 Air, ravine	27 Cluny	61 Falling out	29 Cognizant
15 Shade of green	28 Gaelic	62 Stir to action	30 Washing cycle
18 Pearl Buck heroine	29 Happening	63 Civil disturbance	31 Ranch cattle
17 Fermented drink	30 Sensible	64 Feminine suffix	32 What a tantalus might hold
18 Beam used in medicine	31 Begone!	65 Celerity	33 Allow
19 Poet	32 Meager	66 Adage	34 Cask
20 Teasdale	33 Withdraw		35 Urns
	34 Moslem prince		36 Withered
	35 Sea bird		37 One of the tenets of the abbr.
	36 Man: pret.		38 Have a

Yesterday's Puzzle Solved:	
CLEAR STYUBS MOUTH	
RULES WIRE A AREA	
OLDS AIR-OPEN CLAIM	
PLOT-UP YOUR QUIRKS	
WAS A GIE	
SEVEN AIR CRESIT	
ORD IMPURE ELLA	
PRINCE OF A FELLOW	
HOLES THIRSTY TION	
SILASIN TIF RASIPY	
TIDE PERP	
QUEENANNES LAIE	
WING APOOT DILLA	
HALL TROVE MOAS	
WIVIS SONAR BEIRI	



U.S. has major military presence in Central America

WASHINGTON (R) — The Reagan administration in recent months has gradually sent thousands of troops and millions of dollars into El Salvador and Honduras to establish a major U.S. military presence, defence officials said Friday.

The build-up of men and war equipment, as well as frequent major naval exercises off the area's east and west coasts, comes despite repeated administration statements that it plans no permanent military presence in the region.

Some of the military equipment sent there for joint war games, moreover, may have been acquired by the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) for its covert war against Nicaragua's government, administration officials said.

The New York Times said Friday the Pentagon was bypassing congressional restrictions on arms aid to the area by using its own funds rather than aid money to train Honduran troops.

It said the Pentagon had improved a Honduran airbase and then turned it over to the CIA.

There was no official confirmation of this report by either the CIA or the Defence Department.

They reflect the extent of Mr. Reagan's rising concern over the spread of Communism in the region, which he says is being supported by the Soviet Union through its surrogate Cuba.

Reagan congratulates

President Reagan Friday congratulated El Salvador's President-Elect Jose Napoleon Duarte on his election victory and said he looks forward to meeting the new leader in Washington next week.

Mr. Duarte, a moderate who defeated right-wing candidate Roberto D'Aubuisson in a May 6 run-off presidential election, arrives in Washington this weekend for a private visit and will meet Mr. Reagan on Monday.

He is also expected to meet key members of Congress and top administration officials before returning to El Salvador.

Mr. Reagan, in a written statement released by the White House, also made clear the importance he attaches to El Salvador by announcing that Secretary of State George Shultz would represent the United States at Mr. Duarte's inauguration on June 1.

Mr. Shultz will delay a scheduled European trip with Mr. Reagan to Ireland, Normandy and the London Economic summit to attend the ceremony. Mr. Reagan will leave Washington on June 1.

"We congratulate President-Elect Duarte on his victory and pledge that we will do all in our power to strengthen the ties of freedom and democracy that unite us," Mr. Reagan said.

Mr. Reagan said Mr. Duarte had won a clear mandate from the people.

The U.S. was officially neutral in the election but the White House was relieved by Mr. Duarte's triumph, formally certified this week.

The administration feared a victory by Mr. D'Aubuisson, who allegedly has links with El Salvador's notorious death squads, would hamper its efforts to gain congressional backing for increased military aid to El Salvador.

It thinks the victory of Mr. Duarte, who has a good reputation in the United States, will win additional congressional support for a continued American effort to help the Salvadorean government resist leftist guerrillas.

Gandhi's popularity faces crucial test

NEW DELHI — Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi faces a crucial test of her Congress (I) Party's electoral support when 3.5 million voters in 24 constituencies go to the polls Sunday and on Monday in state by-elections.

The state assembly polls, in 14 states across the country, will act as a barometer for general elections which must be held by next January when Mrs. Gandhi's term of office expires.

The most important test will be in northern India's Hindi speaking heartland of four large states, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh and Bihar, which a political party must dominate in national elections to form a working government in New Delhi. Elections will be held in nine constituencies there.

The poll in one of those, Mahabub in Uttar Pradesh, is regarded with particular interest because the seat is being contested by Maneka Gandhi, the prime minister's rebel daughter-in-law.

Maneka, widow of Gandhi's younger son Sanjay, left her mother-in-law's household in 1982 and launched her own party to oppose the prime minister.

The 28-year-old former model has said she would field about 200 candidates, mostly in northern India, in national polls when they take place.

Maneka is herself expected to contest her late husband's old national constituency of Amethi in Uttar Pradesh. It is now held by Mrs. Gandhi's son and political heir-apparent, Rajiv.

In Marxist-ruled West Bengal state, Mrs. Gandhi's party has won three of four by-elections held since state assembly elections two years ago. Two constituencies will be contested in the state.

Voters are expected to demonstrate whether the Marxists will be able to reverse the trend.

Mrs. Gandhi will seize the opportunity to try to retrieve her party's fortunes in Southern India where 10 local elections will be held in Kerala, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu.

Her party suffered humiliating defeats and lost power in its two southern bastions of Andhra and Karnataka in assembly elections in February last year.

In Andhra, the Congress (I) will test the charisma of a former film star N.T. Rama Rao, who led his regional party to power last year, while in neighbouring Tamil Nadu the Congress (I) is aligned with the state's ruling All India Anna Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam (AIADMK).

The poll may also give the two groupings of national opposition parties, the United Front and the National Democratic Alliance (NDA), a chance to present themselves as a credible alternative to Congress (I) rule.

But local and national elections differ in some aspects.

"In state assembly elections people vote over education, jobs, wages and land," one Congress (I) worker said. "At the national level they may vote for change or continuity in foreign policy, or for a strong leader who can hold the country together in the face of regional or communal stresses."

Of metropolitan Manila's 21 seats at stake final results were available for only five — three went to the KBL and two to UNIDO. The opposition was also leading in 12 of the others and was expected to win them.

The Manila results were a blow to the prestige of Mr. Marcos' wife Imelda, who led the KBL campaign in the capital.

Mrs. Marcos, governor of metropolitan Manila and also a member of the cabinet, has not so far commented on the results.

Many of the parliament's powers, including its legislative functions, are now exercised by Mr. Marcos who issues decrees to enact laws.

Opposition sources said they would fight to force him to give up his decree-making powers.

They said they regarded the polls as a rehearsal for the more important presidential elections due in January 1987. Mr. Marcos has already announced that he will run for re-election.

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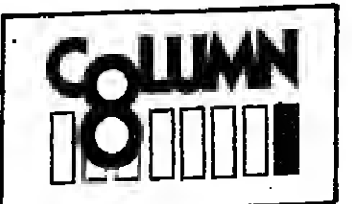
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Prince Charles makes nearly £1m

LONDON (R) — Prince Charles, heir to the British throne, made nearly one million sterling (\$1.4 million) from his estates last year — a rise of about 20 per cent on 1982. Accounts for the 130,000-acre (53,000-hectare) Duchy of Cornwall estates, published Friday, showed his income for the year rose from £817,359 (\$1.1 million) to £978,066 (\$1.3 million) — a quarter of which the Prince of Wales gives to the treasury in place of taxes. Prince Charles, unlike other members of the British Royal Family, receives no money from the government towards expenses incurred through public duties. Princess Diana spent an estimated £30,000 (\$42,000) on clothes last year, according to the Daily Mirror newspaper Saturday.

Reagan undergoes minor surgery

WASHINGTON (R) — Doctors removed a non-cancerous polyp from President Reagan's colon Friday, but despite this minor surgery pronounced him in "very exceptional physical condition." White House spokesman Larry Speakes said most of the polyp was removed in a simple, quick surgical procedure. Doctors at the naval hospital in Bethesda, Maryland, who conducted a three-hour medical check-up, "placed no restrictions" on the 73-year-old Mr. Reagan during his campaign for re-election in November. Mr. Speakes said, Doctors said Mr. Reagan was "in very exceptional physical condition and the results of his physical examination were entirely normal," according to Mr. Speakes. He said a chest X-ray showed improvement in the president's left lung, which was damaged by a gunshot wound during an assassination attempt in 1981. Mr. Reagan did not have a check-up in 1983. White House officials felt that Friday's favourable report would reassure Americans that he was fit to undergo an arduous re-election campaign.

2 Sudanese thieves lose hands

KHARTOUM (R) — Two convicted Sudanese thieves had their right hands publicly amputated here Friday. Nine such amputations have now been carried out in Sudan since Islamic Law was imposed last September. The statement, carried by Sudan News Agency, named the two convicts as John Shoul Goush and Simon Nian Nakou but did not say whether they are from the south. The Egyptian Middle East News Agency said specifically in a dispatch from Khartoum that the two are from the south.

British poet laureate dies

LONDON (R) — Britain's Poet Laureate Sir John Betjeman, once described as "the most English of Englishmen," died Saturday at his home in Cornwall at the age of 77, neighbours said. Sir John was one of the world's best-selling poets, creating verse that immortalised the otherwise mundane life of suburban England. He was also a passionate defender of Britain's architectural heritage and fought to save monuments of the Victorian era from the developer. He was granted the title of Laureate in 1972 to succeed the late poet Cecil Day-Lewis. The title, which dates back to 1670, is conferred by the reigning monarch on a writer to produce works for royal and state occasions. Sir John, who had been suffering from Parkinson's disease, suffered a stroke in 1981 and a heart attack last year.

Lennon collection to be auctioned

NEW YORK (R) — Property from the collection of John Lennon and Yoko Ono, including erotic lithographs by the former Beatle and pianos he and Ono used for composing, will be sold at auction on June 23. Sotheby's auctioneers said Friday. Rock and roll memorabilia relating to the Beatles, Elvis Presley and other performers will also be sold, including a gold 45 record of the Beatles' 1968 song "Hey Jude," which Sotheby's said could sell for as much as \$10,000. "Bag One," a set of 14 narrative and erotic lithographs created by Lennon and given to Ono as a wedding gift in 1969, is expected to sell for between \$10,000 and \$15,000. The proceeds are to be donated to the Spirit Foundation, a New York-based fund established by the Lennons to support various children's causes.

Nicaraguan rebels kill 20 Sandinista militiamen

MANAGUA, Nicaragua (AP) — Twenty Sandinista militiamen were killed in more than 10 hours of fighting following a rebel attack in northern Nicaragua, the official newspaper Barricada said Friday.

Peasant farmers belonging to the militia, which back up the Sandinista army, fought the force of 30 rebels all day Tuesday at a government co-operative 230 kilometres north of Managua, the newspaper said. It did not say how many militiamen were involved in the fighting.

When ammunition ran out, the rebels entered the hamlet, burned homes, a child-care centre and attacked residents, the newspaper said. They withdrew when the army arrived.

Rebels of the Honduras-based

Nicaraguan Democratic Force are fighting the government in northern Nicaragua. Another rebel organisation, the Revolutionary Democratic Alliance, fights in the south.

In another development, the government television station broadcast a tape made by State Security, a government intelligence agency, in which a Nicaraguan reporter confessed to belonging to the alliance.

Luis Voga Sanchez, a reporter for the opposition newspaper La Prensa, has been under arrest since April 30 for alleged counter-revolutionary activities and providing what the government said was valuable information to a radio station owned by a Nicaraguan in Costa Rica.

Peruvian rebels kill 35 people of mountain village

AYACUCHO, Peru (AP) — About 150 Maoist guerrillas massacred 35 residents of a mountain village and wounded 25 others, police said.

The police Friday identified the guerrillas as members of the Shining Path Movement.

The reported attack occurred Wednesday in Pilicas, 280 kilometres south of here in the Andes Mountains. Police said the heavily-armed guerrillas herded residents in the village's main square, called 60 of the villagers by name, and then opened fire on them.

Police said their information on the massacre came from a sur-

vivor, Melcio Osjio, who fled Pilicas to the nearby city of Andahuaylas.

The police offered no explanation for the massacre.

The incident occurred two days before the fourth anniversary of the start of Peru's guerrilla war.

The military command in Ayacucho, where the government has 4,000 troops and police stationed to fight the guerrillas, made no official report on the massacre.

This massacre would be the worst reported since Maoist killed 67 peasants in the town of Lucanamarca on Easter 1983.

Police also said a government official, Silverio Senjo, was killed.

Peking to let Hong Kong retain international ties

HONG KONG (R) — A pro-Peking newspaper here Saturday quoted a Chinese leader as saying Hong Kong could retain its membership of international trade bodies under the name "China Hong Kong" after Britain relinquishes control in 1997.

The Wen Wei Po newspaper said former Foreign Minister Huang Hua told Hong Kong journalists in Peking Friday that Hong Kong might also have its own "independent representatives" in the Chinese delegation to the United Nations who could speak for the territory.

The paper quoted Mr. Huang as saying of Hong Kong's international links after 1997: "most can be retained."

But he added that the territory would have to take part in international organisations under "China Hong Kong" or a similar name, rather than simply Hong Kong as at present, the paper said.

It said a reporter asked if Hong Kong could have an independent representative in China's United Nations delegation who could speak for the territory.

Britain and China are engaged in talks over Hong Kong's future which are expected to end later this year with an agreement on how power is to be handed over in 1997, the year Britain's lease on most of the territory expires.

China has said it will allow Hong Kong to retain its present capitalist system and a large degree of local autonomy for 50 years after the takeover.

Mr. Huang, now a vice-chairman of China's parliament, the National People's Congress, replied: "This is entirely possible. Concrete measures can be decided upon in the future after consultations."

The comments appeared to be a reply to concerns over Hong Kong's future status expressed by a delegation from the colony at present in London.

The delegation of appointed members of Hong Kong's legislative and executive councils has been lobbying British members of parliament, pushing for firm guarantees that China will not interfere with Hong Kong's present system after 1997.

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